Mississippi is projected to see an increase in spending, employment and contributions to its economy if Eastern Gulf OCS oil and natural gas resources are developed. Mississippi could see annual spending grow to over $550 million per year within 20 years due to offshore oil and natural gas exploration in the Eastern Gulf and development activity through significant private investment related to oil and natural gas development activities.

Employment

Employment in Mississippi due to spending by the Eastern Gulf offshore oil and natural gas industry is projected to reach nearly 3,000 jobs. Direct employment due to offshore oil and natural gas exploration and production could reach over 3,000 jobs, with indirect and induced employment of over 5,000 jobs projected throughout the forecast period.

Benefits for Mississippi’s Economy

Contributions to Mississippi’s state economy due to spending on Eastern Gulf OCS oil and natural gas exploration and development activities could be nearly $680 million per year by the end of the forecast period. Additionally, if the existing Gulf of Mexico state/federal revenue sharing arrangement is extended to the Eastern Gulf OCS, Mississippi’s share of the bonuses, rents and royalties generated could reach $120 million per year within 20 years, with cumulative effects totaling $985 million.

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