Texas 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. Texas could see annual spending grow to over **$3.4 billion 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 Texas due to spending by the Eastern Gulf offshore oil and natural gas industry is projected to reach **approximately 50,000**. Direct employment due to offshore oil and natural gas exploration and production could reach over 18,000 jobs, with indirect and induced employment of nearly 32,000 jobs projected throughout the forecast period.

**Benefits for Texas’s Economy**

Contributions to Texas’s state economy due to spending on Eastern Gulf OCS oil and natural gas exploration and development activities could be nearly **$4.4 billion per year** by the end of the forecast period.

**Eastern Gulf Development Bolsters TX’s Existing Industries**

Annual spending at the end of the forecast period in Texas is projected at around **$3.4 billion per year**, with spending expected to focus primarily on drilling, operational expenditures, and engineering. As the region develops, suppliers of offshore oil and natural gas equipment are expected to take advantage of the high-tech manufacturing capabilities, as well as the extensive port infrastructure in neighboring states.

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