



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT NEWS RELEASE  
Central California District**Release Date:** 03/10/10**Contacts:** Laurie Moore, (916) 978-4377**News Release No.** CA-CC-10-50

## BLM Oil and Gas Lease Auction Tops \$1.9 Million

BAKERSFIELD, CALIF. – Nine oil and gas lease parcels in Kern and Sutter counties were auctioned for a total of \$1,976,303, including administrative fees, by the Bureau of Land Management's Bakersfield Field Office today.

Occidental of Elk Hills, Bakersfield, paid the highest price for parcels, \$78,175 for one parcel and \$352,000 for a second parcel. Venoco, Inc., Carpinteria paid \$9,015 for one parcel in Sutter County.

BLM is required by law to periodically offer federal land for lease for oil and gas exploration and development. The oil and gas industry is encouraged to submit an "expression of interest" for federal land parcels in California that have potential for development. An "expression of interest" is a letter or a form listing the legal description of lands an individual or company is interested in seeing offered for lease.

Expressions of interest for the lease auction planned for Dec. 8, 2010, should be sent to the BLM, Attention: Laurie Moore, 2800 Cottage Way Suite W-1618, Sacramento, Calif. 95825 no later than April 9.

For more information, contact Moore at (916) 978-4377 or Nora DeDios at the BLM Bakersfield Field Office, (661) 391-6129.

--BLM--

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Last updated: 03-11-2010

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