

CITATION

**SAFETY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
CAMARILLO DISTRICT
PACIFIC OCS REGION**

**TORCH OPERATING COMPANY
TORCH RIG SERVICES
PLATFORMS HENRY AND HILLHOUSE
DRILLING/PRODUCTION CONTRACTOR**

This award is presented to Torch Operating Company/Torch Rig Services, Contractors for Nuevo Energy Company, in recognition of the accident-free record and for the professional manner in which drilling and production operations were conducted on Platforms Henry and Hillhouse for the period January 1 through December 31, 2001.

During the rating period, Minerals Management Service (MMS) personnel conducted 22 unannounced partial production inspections, 2 announced complete (annual) production inspections and 5 drilling inspections with no incident of noncompliance (INC) detected. Results of these inspections showed that Torch had an excellent safety record in drilling and production operations at these two platforms in accordance with MMS regulations and the criteria set up for the SAFE award program. Procedures to promote communication and operational review among rig and platform personnel were excellent. Torch was extremely cooperative with MMS personnel and provided support when needed. Supervisor staff and field personnel demonstrated a keen awareness and knowledge of Federal, State, and County operating regulations and the importance of ensuring safety and environmental protection.

The Secretary of the Interior and the Director of Minerals Management Service join me in commending Torch Operating Company and Torch Rig Services for their part in the development of offshore mineral resources while maintaining a constant awareness for the safety of personnel, protection of the environment, and adherence to operating regulations.

**J. Lisle Reed
Regional Director
Pacific OCS Region**