Data Methodology for
Big Oil's Bidding (February 22, 2018)

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Pre- and post- area-wide-leasing statistics for the Gulf of Mexico

We used all of the data points available from BOEM's data on lease sale statistics in the Gulf of Mexico at the time of this report's analysis stage, which included data on lease sales between October 13, 1954 and March 22, 2017. Averages of per auction averages were used where noted—rather than calculating one total auction or total yearly average using the sum of all the relevant numerators and denominators—to help control for the wide variances in land prices and reduce the effect of outlier prices and valuations in a given auction. Otherwise, a standard arithmetic mean was calculated.

Data on Lease Offering 249 (which took place on August 16, 2017) was not yet incorporated into the sales statistics data at the time of analysis

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), *Gulf of Mexico Oil and Gas Lease Offerings*
https://www.boem.gov/Outer-Continental-Shelf-Lease-Sale-Statistics/

Tract valuations, viability determinations, and bid competition data

We used all available Phase I and Phase II Decision Matrices for all Gulf of Mexico lease offerings that had at least 1 bid evaluation and that contained the reporting structure implemented after March 5, 1997, which included data on bid evaluations between August 27, 1997 and August 16, 2017. Averages of per lease averages were used where noted—rather than calculating one total auction or total yearly average using the sum of all the relevant numerators and denominators— to help control for the wide variances in land prices and reduce the effect of outlier prices and valuations in a given lease or auction. Otherwise, a standard arithmetic mean was calculated.

Lease Offerings 166 (March 5, 1997), 161 (September 25, 1996), and 157 (April 24, 1996) had decision matrices that were available and had at least 1 bid but were reported in a different format than the rest of our data, which precluded an "apples to apples" comparison and were thus excluded on that basis

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), *Lease Sale Information*
https://www.boem.gov/GOMR-Historical-Lease-Sale-Information/

Determining which tracts entered production

We obtained the ASCII download of BSEE's "Lease Data" file and parsed out production data for all of the leases we were able to identify during our tract valuation and viability determination analyses. We considered a tract to be producing if a "First Production Date" was listed for a given lease.

*BSEE defined the First Production Date as: "The date a lease is first placed on continuous extraction of solid minerals or flow of fluid minerals that is primarily for sale rather than for testing."**

Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), *Lease Data*
https://www.data.bsee.gov/Leasing/Files/lsetapefixed.zip

Government royalty revenues and non-government sales values

We obtained information on reported fiscal year revenues and reported fiscal year sales values for oil and gas from ONRR. ONRR updated its website between our analysis stage and the release of this report, and some of the data we used is no longer available online.

Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR), *Statistical Information Report Tool*
https://statistics.onrr.gov/ReportTool.aspx (No longer operational)

Inflation

All values adjusted for inflation were adjusted to 2016 dollars using the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) U.S. city average series for all items, not seasonally adjusted. We used 2016 dollars because our analysis stage took place prior to the release of an annual CPI for 2017.

Currency data for Lease Sale 247 (March 22, 2017) was the sole instance in which we adjusted down 2017 dollars to 2016 dollars, and we did so using 2017's half-year CPI of 244.076

Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Consumer Price Index (CPI) Databases*
https://data.bls.gov/