On Thursday, July 22, 2010, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform will hold a hearing entitled, "Offshore Drilling: Will Interior's Reforms change Its History of Failed Oversight?" The hearing will examine issues surrounding the Department of the Interior's oversight of offshore oil drilling, including issues regarding the reorganization of the Minerals Management Service (MMS). The hearing will also examine how the reorganization of MMS, now known as the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Regulation and Enforcement, will improve the oversight of the offshore oil and gas industry. In May, Chairman Towns opened the committee's investigation into the serious lapses in oversight and regulatory failures at MMS

the years leading up to the Deepwater Horizon disaster.

The hearing will take place at 10:00 a.m. in room 2154 Rayburn House Office Building.

To watch a webcast of the hearing, click here

The witnesses scheduled to testify include:

Panel I

The Honorable Ken Salazar Secretary United States Department of Interior

Mr. Michael Bromwich Director Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement

Panel II

Mr. Frank Rusco Director, Natural Resources and the Environment United States Government Accountability Office

Ms. Mary L. Kendall Acting Inspector General Office of Inspector General United States Department of Interior

Ms. Danielle Brian Executive Director Project on Government Oversight

The Honorable Charlotte Randolph

Documents and Links

Opening Statement of Chairman Edolphus Towns

Prepared testimony of the Hon. Ken Salazar

Prepared testimony of Mr. Michael Bromwich

Prepared testimony of Mr. Frank Rusco

Prepared testimony of Ms. Mary Kendall

Prepared testimony of Ms. Danielle Brian

Prepared testimony of the Hon. Charlotte Randolph

Closing Statement of Chairman Edolphus Towns