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## December Louisiana lease sale rallies, attracting \$482,109 in bids

The sum of high bids at the December 9 Louisiana lease sale significantly exceeded those of the October and November sales combined, garnering \$482,109.50 from the sale of seven tracts.

The drilling rights for 1,485.43 onshore acres were awarded by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources at the sale. The cost per acre averaged \$330.70.

As in months past, Hilcorp Energy purchased the majority of the acreage for sale. The large, privately held operator leased four of the seven tracts of land, or 654.43 acres, for \$229,050.50. The acreage covers one tract in Terrebonne Parish and three tracts in Cameron Parish. One of the three tracts in Cameron Parish covers portions of sections 1 and 2 in 15s-3w, within four miles west of neighboring Vermilion Parish. Only a single gas well completed in the late 1970s has ever been successful in these sections. The 15,000-ft vertical well recovered a cumulative 3.6 million cu ft of gas through Lower Miocene perforations at 12,510-12,516 ft.

Castex Energy Partners LP purchased two tracts, which cover a cumulative 633 acres. Both Terrebonne Parish tracts were acquired for \$193,065.

The third and final bidder at the December sale was The Meridian Resource & Exploration LLC, which purchased 198 acres in St. Mary Parish for \$59,994.

Decembers sale surpassed Septembers total of \$476,400 but did not come near Augusts high bids, which totaled \$3.1 million.

To view tract-by-tract results for Louisiana lease sales, visit http://reports.dnr.state.la.us/reports/rwservlet?SRMN9031B p.

The next monthly lease sale is set for January 13.