

## ***Coastal Impact Assistance Program***

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-58) was signed into law by President Bush on August 8, 2005. Section 384 of the Act establishes the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), which authorizes funds to be distributed to Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas producing states to mitigate the impacts of OCS oil and gas activities.

Under the CIAP, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to distribute to producing states and coastal political subdivisions (CPS's) \$250 million for each of the Federal fiscal years (FY) 2007 through 2010. This money will be shared among Alabama, Alaska, California, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas and will be allocated to each producing state based upon allocation formulas prescribed by the Act. Further, the CIAP allocates money to the eligible CPS's of the states identified above.

Pursuant to the Act, a producing state or CPS shall use all amounts received under this section for one or more of the following five authorized uses:

### **Authorized Uses:**

1. Projects and activities for the conservation, protection, or restoration of coastal areas, including wetland.
2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, or natural resources.
3. Planning assistance and the administrative costs of complying with CIAP.
4. Implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal or comprehensive conservation management plan.
5. Mitigation of the impact of OCS activities through funding of onshore infrastructure projects and public service needs.