

RESCINDED

#351



Office of Thrift Supervision

Department of the Treasury

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MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

FROM:

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SUBJECT:

Guidance for Thrifts Affected by BP Oil Spill

The oil spill resulting from the explosion and sinking of the Deep Water Horizon Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit has had a devastating effect on the U. S. Gulf Coast region. The Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) urges thrifts in the affected areas to consider all reasonable steps to meet their customers' financial needs.

The OTS recognizes that the efforts of thrifts to work with borrowers in communities impacted by disasters, if conducted in a prudent manner, consistent with the principles of safety and soundness, are in the public interest. The OTS encourages thrifts operating in or extending services near areas affected by the oil spill to work with customers and affected communities by considering:

- Temporarily waiving late payment charges and early withdrawal of savings penalties;
- Expediting lending decisions when possible, consistent with safety and soundness; and
- Restructuring borrowers' debt obligations, where appropriate, by altering or adjusting payment terms.

These measures can help borrowers impacted by the oil spill recover and place them in a better position to meet financial obligations, as well as help to revitalize affected communities and ensure the continued stability of thrifts during recovery efforts.