

OCEANOGRAPHIC ENGINEERING PROBLEMS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

Some of the diversified problems associated with offshore oil drilling and production activities, which come within the scope of oceanographic engineering, are outlined as a means of introducing this relatively new field of engineering endeavor. Included in this introduction is a brief discussion of some of the specific methods and instruments which are used. However, the primary purpose of this paper is to demonstrate how information and results obtained by certain types of oceanographic studies may be helpful to the petroleum geologist in solving specific geologic problems. Emphasis is placed on problems involving ecology because no major oceanographic problem can be solved without considering ecologic factors; and it is only a short step from ecology to paleoecology.