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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks. Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):
BP Corporation North America Inc.
Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?
 yes no

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies):

The University of Southern Mississippi
Research Foundation
2609 West 4th Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39406

3. Nature of Conveyance:
 Assignment Merger
 Security Agreement Change of Name
 Other

Execution Date: May 12, 2004

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? Yes No

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):
If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:
A. Patent Application No.(s)
10/487,450

B. Patent No.(s)
6,403,839
6,620,975
Additional numbers attached? Yes No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:
BP America Inc.
BP Legal
4101 Winfield Road, Mail Code 5 East
Warrenville, IL 60555
Fax No.: 630-821-3383

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 3
7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41): \$120.00
 Credit Card Form PTO-2038 attached
 Authorized to be charged to deposit account
8. Deposit account number:
01-0528
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9. Statement and signature.
To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.
Frank J. Sroka
Name of Person Signing Frank J. Sroka Signature May 12, 2004 Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments and document: 3

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ASSIGNMENT OF PATENT RIGHTS

This Assignment is by and between:

BP Corporation North America Inc., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Indiana, USA, having a place of business at 4101 Winfield Road, Warrenville, Illinois 60555, USA (the "Assignor") and

The University of Southern Mississippi Research Foundation, an educational institution organized under the laws of the State of Mississippi, having a place of business at 2609 West 4th Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39406, USA (the "Assignee").

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, assignor sells, assigns, and transfers to Assignee its entire right, title, and interest in and to the patent/patent applications identified below, the inventions claimed therein and all causes of action (either at law or in equity) and the right to sue, counterclaims, and recover damages for past, present, and future infringement of the rights assigned herein.

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Application Date</u>
10/487,450	February 23, 2004
<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
6,403,839	June 11, 2002
6,620,975	September 16, 2003

Assignor hereby authorizes and requests the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks of the United States, and the patent office or agency of all other countries, to issue to Assignee any and all patents resulting from continuations, continuations-in-part, or divisions of, or resulting from renewals, substitutions, reissues, reexaminations, or extensions of any patent or patent application identified above, for the full term or terms for which they may be granted.

This Assignment is executed on behalf of the Assignor by its duly authorized representative.

Dated this 12th day of May 2004

BP Corporation North America Inc.

By: *Frank J. Sroka*
Frank J. Sroka, Vice President and
Chief Patent Counsel - US

Subscribed and sworn to before
me this 12th day of May 2004

Carol A. Wilson
Carol A. Wilson, Notary Public

