

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Name of

Issuer: ST. MARY LAND & EXPLORATION CO.

Title of Class

of Securities: Common Stock

CUSIP Number: 792228108

1) NAME OF I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF REPORTING PERSON

The Prudential Insurance Company of America 22-1211670

2.) MEMBER OF A GROUP: (a) N/A

(b) N/A

3) SEC USE ONLY:

4) PLACE OF ORGANIZATION: A mutual insurance company organized  
under the laws of the State of New Jersey

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY REPORTING PERSON WITH:

5) Sole Voting Power: 152,000 See Exhibit A

6) Shared Voting Power 481,500 See Exhibit A

7) Sole Dispositive Power: 152,000 See Exhibit A

8) Shared Dispositive Power: 481,500 See Exhibit A

9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED:

633,500 See Exhibit A

10) AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES SHARES: Not Applicable

11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9):

5.84 See Exhibit A

12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON: IC, IA

ITEM 1(a). NAME OF ISSUER:

ST. MARY LAND & EXPLORATION CO.

ITEM 1(b). ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S EXECUTIVE OFFICES:

ST. MARY LAND & EXPLORATION CO.  
1776 Lincoln St., Suite 1100  
Denver, CO 80203

ITEM 2(a). NAME OF PERSON FILING:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America

ITEM 2(b). ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE:

751 Broad Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102-3777

ITEM 2(c). CITIZENSHIP:

A mutual insurance company organized under the laws of the  
State of New Jersey

ITEM 2(d). TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES:

Common Stock

ITEM 2(e). CUSIP NUMBER:

792228108

ITEM 3. The Person filing this statement is an Insurance Company

as defined in Section 3(a) (19) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and an Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP:

(a) Number of Shares  
Beneficially Owned: 633,500 See Exhibit A

(b) Percent of Class: 5.84

Number  
(c) Powers Of Shares

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Sole power to vote or 152,000 See Exhibit A  
to direct the vote

Shared power to vote or 481,500 See Exhibit A  
to direct the vote

Sole power to dispose or 152,000 See Exhibit A  
to direct disposition

Shared power to dispose 481,500 See Exhibit A  
or to direct disposition

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF 5% OR LESS OF A CLASS:

Not Applicable

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN 5% ON BEHALF  
OF ANOTHER PERSON:

See Exhibit A

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE  
SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING  
REPORTED ON BY THE ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY:

Not Applicable

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS  
OF THE GROUP:

Not Applicable

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP:

Not Applicable

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION:

By signing below, the Prudential Insurance Company of America certifies that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purpose or effect.

The filing of this statement should not be construed as an admission that Prudential is, for purposes of Sections 13 or 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the beneficial owner of such shares.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of its knowledge and belief, The Prudential Insurance Company of America certifies that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

By: Ellen McGlynn Koke  
Second Vice President

Date: 02/02/99  
As of: 12/31/98

Exhibit A

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ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America ('Prudential') may have direct or indirect voting and/or investment discretion over 633,500 shares of the Issuer's common stock which are held for the benefit of its clients by its separate accounts, externally managed accounts, registered investment companies, subsidiaries and/or other affiliates. Prudential is reporting the combined holdings of these entities for the purpose of administrative convenience.

These shares were acquired in the ordinary course of business, and not with the purpose or effect of changing or influencing control of the Issuer. The filing of this statement should not be construed as an admission that Prudential is, for the purposes of Section 13 or 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the beneficial owner of these shares.