

Section 25, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 26, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 33, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 34, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 35, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

T. 21 S., R. 25 E.,

Section 2, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 3, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 7, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 8, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 9, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 10, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 11, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 14, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 15, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 17, Lot 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 18, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 19, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 20, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Section 21, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains approximately 3, 385.9 acres in Grand County, Utah.

The purpose of the proposed withdrawal is to protect the recreational values of Westwater Canyon. Westwater Canyon has long been one of the most popular white water rafting areas in the Western United States. In addition to its recreational values, Westwater has other significant resource values. Six threatened or endangers species of animals are present in the corridor and it contains outstanding geologic features, scenery, and important historic and cultural sites.

For a period of 90 days from the date of publication of this notice, all persons wishing to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal may present their views in writing to the State Director at the address indicated above.

Notice is hereby given that a public meeting, in connection with the proposed withdrawal, is scheduled for October 16, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. in the BLM Conference Room, 82 East Dogwood Avenue, Moab, Utah.

The application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR part 2300.

For a period of two years from the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register, the land will be segregated above unless the application is denied or canceled or the withdrawal is approved prior to that date. The temporary uses which may be permitted during the segregative period are leases, permits, rights-of-way, and disposal of vegetative resources other than under the mining laws.

Dated: June 12, 1996.

Roger D. Zortman,

*Acting State Director.*

[FR Doc. 96-15699 Filed 6-19-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-M

## Minerals Management Service

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of renewal of information collection.

**SUMMARY:** As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, MMS invites the public and other Federal agencies to comment on a proposal to extend a currently approved collection of information for abandonment of wells on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

**DATES:** Submit written comments by August 19, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Mail Stop 4700; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 22070-4817; Attention: Chief, Engineering and Standards Branch.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alexis London, Engineering and Standards Branch, Minerals Management Service, telephone (703) 787-1562.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** 30 CFR Part 250, Subpart G, Abandonment of Wells Abstract: The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) gives the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) the responsibility to preserve, protect, and develop oil and gas resources in the OCS consistent with

the need to make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible; balance orderly energy resource development with protection of human, marine, and coastal environments; ensure the public a fair and equitable return on resources of the OCS; and preserve and maintain free enterprise competition. The OCSLA Amendment of 1978 amended section 3(6) of the OCSLA to state that "operations in the outer Continental Shelf should be conducted \* \* \* using technology, precautions, and techniques sufficient to prevent or minimize \* \* \* physical obstruction to other users of the waters or subsoil and seabed, or other occurrences which may cause damage to the environment or to property, or endanger life or health."

To do this, the Secretary has authorized the Director of MMS to issue regulations governing OCS oil and gas and sulphur lease operations. The rules governing temporary abandonment of a drilling well are prescribed in 30 CFR Part 250, Subpart, G Abandonment of Wells.

In order for MMS to decide the necessity for allowing a well to be temporarily abandoned, the lessee/operator must show that there is a reason for not permanently abandoning the well and that the temporary abandonment is not a significant threat to fishing, navigation, or other uses of the seabed. If MMS did not collect the information, MMS could not determine: (a) The intent of the lessee, (b) if the final disposition of the well is being diligently pursued, (c) any deviations from the approved Exploration or Development and Production Plan, and (d) if the lessee/operator has documented the temporary plugging of the well and has marked the location.

Lessees' proprietary information submitted with an abandonment plan will be protected according to the Freedom of Information Act and 30 CFR 250.18. The collection does not include items of a sensitive nature. The requirement to respond is mandatory.

**Description of Respondents:** Federal

OCS oil and gas lessees.

**Frequency:** On occasion.

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 130 lessees making an estimated 1,550 annual reports per year.

**Estimate of Burden:** Average of one-half hour per response.

**Estimate of Total Annual Burden Hours:** 775 burden hours.

**Estimate of Total Annual Cost to Respondents for Burden Hours:** Based on \$35 per hour, the total cost to lessees is estimated to be \$27,125.

**Estimate of Total Other Annual Costs to Respondents:**

There are no other known cost burdens to the respondents.

*Type of Request:* Extension of currently approved collection.

*OMB Number:* 1010-0079.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Comments:* The MMS will summarize written responses to this notice and address them in its submission for OMB approval.

All comments will become a matter of public record.

(1) The MMS specifically solicits comments on the following questions:

(a) Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of MMS's functions, and will it be useful?

(b) Are the estimates of the burden hours of the proposed collection reasonable?

(c) Do you have any suggestions that would enhance the quality, clarity, or usefulness of the information to be collected?

(d) Is there a way to minimize the information collection burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology?

(2) In addition, the PRA requires agencies to estimate the total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information. The MMS needs your comments on this item. Your response should split the cost estimate into two components:

(a) Total Capital and startup cost component and

(b) Annual operation, maintenance, and purchase of services component.

Your estimates should consider the costs to generate, maintain, and disclose or provide the information. You should describe the methods you use to estimate major cost factors, including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, discount rate(s), and the period over which you incur costs. Capital and startup costs include, among other items, computers and software you purchase to prepare for collection information; monitoring, sampling, drilling, and testing equipment; and record storage facilities. Generally, your estimates should not include equipment or services purchased: (1) before October 1, 1995; (2) to comply with requirements not associated with the information collection; (3) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the Government; or (4) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.

*Bureau Clearance Officer:* Carole A. deWitt, (703) 787-1242.

Dated: June 13, 1996.

Henry G. Bartholomew,

*Deputy Associate Director for Operations and Safety Management.*

[FR Doc. 96-15746 Filed 6-19-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

### **Using Third Parties to Certify Training Programs for Lessee and Contractor Employees Working in Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil, Gas, and Sulfur Operations**

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The MMS requires certain people who work on the OCS to complete training programs certified by MMS. The MMS is considering having one or more third parties administer the training program certification process and has proposed a revision of MMS regulations to provide for this. The MMS, while not yet looking for third parties, invites questions on or comments about the role a third party might play in training program certification, should a decision be made to use them.

**DATES:** The public is invited to comment on this notice. The MMS will consider all comments we receive by July 22, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail or hand-carry your written comments on this notice to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service, Mail Stop 4810; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 22070-4817; Attention: Chief, Information and Training Branch.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Joseph Levine, Chief, Information and Training Branch, telephone (703) 787-1033 or fax (703) 787-1575.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The MMS has two principal objectives for using third parties—

- improving workplace safety, worker training, and preventing pollution through the innovation third parties could bring by serving as "think tanks" for improved training; and
- reducing government costs by shifting them to the regulated industry.

The MMS has included a provision allowing the use of third parties in the proposed revisions (Federal Register, vol. 60, p. 55683, 11/2/95) to its OCS worker training regulations (30 CFR 250, Subpart O, Training). The MMS decision to use third parties depends, in part, on whether MMS can identify and secure one or more suitable third

parties. When released, the final rule will reflect whether MMS believes it will be able to do this. If MMS decides not to use third parties to do certification work, it would continue its role as certifier, and it might begin to recover costs from organizations seeking training program certification. This would not provide all the benefits of using a third party, but it would shift certification costs away from MMS.

### **Current Program**

Certain OCS oil and gas workers must pass job-specific training as required by the Subpart O regulations. The organization that provides the training gives each worker who passes it an MMS training certificate. Workers must be re-certified from time to time through additional training. The training organization provides MMS with information on worker certification within 30 days after a worker successfully completes training. The MMS monitors worker training and certification in a database. Each year MMS must update about 20 percent of the database's approximate 40,000 records.

A training organization that teaches Subpart O training must have its programs reviewed periodically by MMS to determine whether they meet all regulatory requirements. If they do, MMS certifies the training programs conditionally, pending a successful onsite evaluation by MMS. Certification to teach a Subpart O training program is valid for 4 years. A training organization may request a 4-year renewal of a certified program at any time expect during the last 90 days of the initial certification period. The MMS treats a renewal application the same as it does an application for a new program.

There are about 60 training organizations teaching MMS-approved programs in drilling, well-completion, well-workover, and well-servicing well control operations. The MMS processes an average of 15 requests for training program certification or re-certification each year.

The MMS conducts unannounced training site evaluations on 10 percent of all certified training programs each year. These evaluations, which follow standard procedures (i.e., appropriate entrance and exit interviews with students, instructors, and administrative staff, and good record checking) ensure that organization—

- adhere to their approved training plans and technical manuals; and
- maintain a proper learning atmosphere with regard to classroom instruction, hands-on instruction, and testing.