

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Abstract**

1. The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA), 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*, requires the Secretary of the Interior to preserve, protect, and develop oil and gas resources in the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS); make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible; balance orderly energy resources development with protection of the human, marine, and coastal environment; ensure the public a fair and equitable return on the resources offshore; and preserve and maintain free enterprise competition. Section 1332(6) of the OCSLA (43 U.S.C. 1332) requires that "operations in the Outer Continental Shelf should be conducted in a safe manner by well-trained personnel using technology, precautions, and techniques sufficient to prevent or minimize the likelihood of blowouts, loss of well control, fires, spillages, 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 carry out these responsibilities, the Director of the MMS has issued rules governing drilling operations in the OCS. To perform these duties, MMS needs to collect information from lessees in the OCS. This information is in the form of descriptions of the drilling site, procedures, and equipment as described in 30 CFR Part 250, Subpart D, Drilling Operations.

2. The MMS prepared a proposed rule to amend Subpart D, § 250.67, Hydrogen sulfide, to revise the requirements for preventing hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) releases and protecting human safety. Also proposed were requirements for visual and audible warning systems, personnel protection, training, (H₂S) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) detection and monitoring, and H₂S flaring. The proposed rule was published in the Federal Register on May 11, 1995 (60 FR 25178). Comments were due July 10, 1995. MMS did not receive any comments pertaining to the Subpart D information collection requirements in this proposed rule.

3. MMS will use the information to ascertain the condition of a drilling site for the purpose of mitigating hazards inherent in drilling operations. If MMS did not collect the information, we could not determine whether lessees are properly providing for the safety of operations and the protection of the environment. Specifically, we could not:

a. Review drilling plans to ensure that the drilling unit is fit for the intended purpose.

b. Review expected oceanographic and meteorological conditions to use when evaluating the integrity of the drilling unit (this information is submitted only if it is not otherwise available).

c. Review shallow hazard survey data to ensure that the lessee will not encounter geologic conditions which present a hazard to operations.

d. Review welding and burning plans to ensure the safety of operations.

e. Review casing data to ensure the adequacy of casings for anticipated conditions.

f. Review well records to ascertain whether hydrocarbons have been encountered and whether H₂S has been encountered.

4. The reporting and recordkeeping requirements and number of respondents vary for each section. The estimates below are based on an average.

Description of Respondents: Federal OCS oil and gas lessees.

Frequency: On occasion; varies by section.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 125.

Estimate of Burden: Reporting average of 19 annual hours per response; recordkeeping average of 140 annual hours per recordkeeper.

Estimate of Total Annual Burden on Respondents: Reporting burden estimate = 2,371 hours; recordkeeping burden estimate = 17,533. Estimated combined total of 19,904.

Estimate of Total Annual Cost to Respondents for Hour Burdens: Based on \$25 per hour, the total cost to lessees is estimated to be \$497,600.

Estimate of Total Other Annual Costs to Respondents: Unknown.

Type of Request: Reinstatement.

OMB Number: 1010-0053.

Form Number: N/A.

Comments: MMS will summarize written responses to this notice for inclusion in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

1. As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), MMS specifically solicits responses to the following questions: (a) Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of MMS' functions and will it be useful? (b) Are the estimates of the burden 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 Paperwork Reduction Act requires agencies to estimate the total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information. MMS needs your comments on this item. Your response should split the cost estimate into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component; and (b) an annual operation and maintenance and purchase of services component. The estimates should take into account costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Include descriptions of methods used to estimate major cost factor including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, the discount rate(s), and the time period over which costs will be incurred. Capital and start-up costs include, among other items, preparations for collecting information such as purchasing computers and software, monitoring, sampling, drilling and testing equipment; and record storage facilities. Generally, estimates should not include purchases of equipment or services made: (a) prior to October 1, 1995; (b) to achieve regulatory compliance with requirements not associated with the information collection; (c) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the government; or (d) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.

Bureau Clearance Officer: Arthur Quintana (703) 787-1239.

Dated: January 29, 1996.

Henry G. Bartholomew,

Deputy Associate Director for Operations and Safety Management.

[FR Doc. 96-2383 Filed 2-5-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

Reduction of Royalty or Net Profit Share

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, DOI.

ACTION: Notice of request for reinstatement of information collection; request for comments.

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on a request to reinstate a previously approved collection of

information contained in 30 CFR Part 203.50, concerning the reduction of royalty or net profit share. MMS re-estimated the reporting burden which resulted in a reduction in the annual burden previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). MMS will request approval from the OMB to reinstate this collection of information.

DATES: Submit written comments by April 8, 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: Marshall Rose, Chief, Economic Evaluation Branch, Resource Evaluation Division, Minerals Management Service, telephone (703) 787-1536.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Abstract: 1. The Secretary of the Interior issued regulations at 30 CFR 203.50 which contain provisions to reduce or eliminate any royalty or net profit share on an entire leasehold or on any deposit, tract, or portion thereof that is segregated for royalty purposes, in order to promote increased production on a lease area through direct, secondary, or tertiary recovery means.

2. In order for MMS to determine whether to eliminate royalty or net profit share, the lessee must request relief filing an application prepared in accordance with § 203.50. The application must contain sufficient scientific, geological, engineering, and financial information to permit MMS to evaluate the need for relief.

Description of Respondents: Federal OCS oil and gas lessees.

Frequency: Annual.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 30 initial applications; 2 annual renewals.

Estimate of Burden: 160 hours per initial application; 80 hours per renewal of previously approved applications.

Estimate of Total Annual Burden on Respondents: Reporting burden estimate=1,760 hours.

Estimate of Total Annual Cost to Respondents for Hour

Burdens: Based on \$25 per hour, the total cost to lessees is estimated to be \$44,000.

Estimate of Total Other Annual Costs to Respondents: Unknown.

Type of Request: Reinstatement.

OMB Number: 1010-0071.

Form Number: N/A.

Comments: MMS will summarize written responses to this notice for inclusion in the request for OMB

approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

1. As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), MMS specifically solicits responses to the following: (a) Is the proposed collection of information necessary for the proper performance of MMS functions and will it be useful? (b) Are the estimates of the burden 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 Paperwork Reduction Act requires agencies to estimate the total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information. MMS needs your comments on this item. Your response should split the cost estimate into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component; and (b) an annual operation and maintenance and purchase of services component. The estimates should take into account costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Include descriptions of methods used to estimate major cost factors including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, the discount rate(s), and the time period over which costs will be incurred. Capital and start-up costs include, among other items, preparations for collecting information such as purchasing computers and software, monitoring, sampling, drilling and testing equipment; and record storage facilities. Generally, estimates should not include purchases of equipment or services made: (a) before October 1, 1995; (b) to achieve regulatory compliance with requirements not associated with the information collection; (c) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the government; or (d) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.

Bureau Clearance Officer: Arthur Quintana, (703) 787-1239.

Dated: January 29, 1996.

Henry G. Bartholomew,

Deputy Associate Director for Operations and Safety Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

National Park Service

60 Day Notice of Intention To Request Clearance of Information Collection, Opportunity for Public Comment

AGENCY: National Park Service, The Department of Interior.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 195 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 3507) and 5 CFR Part 1320, Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements, the National Park Service invites public comments on a proposed information collection request (ICR). Comments are invited on: (1) The need for the information including whether the information has practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the reporting burden estimate; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The Primary Purpose of the Proposed ICR: To identify characteristics, use patterns, perceptions and preferences of visitors within Mount Rushmore National Memorial and Perry's Victory International Peace Memorial. Results will be used by managers in ongoing planning and management to improve services, protect resources and better serve the visitors.

DATES: Public comments will be accepted on or before April 8, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to David W. Lime, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, Cooperative Park Studies Unit, Department of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota, 115 Green Hall 1530 N. Cleveland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108.

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Copies of the proposed ICR requirement can be obtained from David W. Lime, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, Cooperative Park Studies Unit, Department of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota, 115 Green Hall 1530 N. Cleveland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dave Lime, 612-624-2250.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: