

**ACTION:** Notice of Solicitation on Federal Royalty Oil.

**SUMMARY:** MMS is announcing a public competitive offering of approximately 35,000 barrels per day of crude oil to be taken as royalty in kind from Federal properties in the Gulf of Mexico. This solicitation may be found on the MMS Internet website at <http://www.rmp.mms.gov>.

**DATES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

**ADDRESSES:** See **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Todd Leneau, Minerals Management Service, Procurement Branch, MS 2730, P.O. Box 25165, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225-0165; telephone number (303) 275-7385; fax (303) 275-7303; e-mail [Todd.Leneau@mms.gov](mailto:Todd.Leneau@mms.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This Solicitation Number 1435-02-00-RP-40337 offers approximately 35,000 barrels of crude oil per day from selected Federal properties in the Gulf of Mexico. This solicitation was posted to the MMS Internet website on August 22, 2000, and may be found at <http://www.rmp.mms.gov> under the question "What else is new?" The solicitation may also be obtained by contacting Mr. Todd Leneau at the address in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above.

Bids should be submitted to the address provided in the solicitation. Bids will be due at that address on or before September 18, 2000. MMS will notify successful bidders and operators of production selected for royalty in kind on or before September 30, 2000. The royalty oil contracts will be effective November 1, 2000, and will have a 6-month term with a 6-month contract extension by mutual consent of both the winning bidder and MMS.

The Federal Government will begin taking the awarded royalty oil volumes for delivery to successful bidders beginning on November 1, 2000. Under the terms of this solicitation, operators will deliver the royalty oil to market centers such as St. James and Empire, Louisiana, where winning bidders will take delivery. Winning bidders will report deliveries to MMS using a *Microsoft Excel* spreadsheet. Pricing will be established in the contract.

MMS is allowing bidders to self-certify their financial solvency instead of posting a letter of credit. Details are available in the solicitation.

Royalty oil will be sold based on a competitive bidding process. The bid proposal will be based on formulas representing differentials from index

prices. The highest bidder, exceeding or meeting minimum bid, will be notified by phone or e-mail and provided a list of properties from which to choose. After the highest bidder selects his/her properties, the list of remaining properties will be provided to the next highest bidder. This process will be continued until all the oil is selected or the minimum bid threshold is met.

As stated previously, this sale will be a competitive bidding process, whereby a minimum bid, for each oil type, based on differentials from index prices will be established. If the minimum bid price is not met, MMS will have the option to negotiate prices with the highest bidder.

This offering of crude oil continues the MMS's royalty-in-kind pilot program. MMS's objective is to identify circumstances in which taking oil and gas royalties as a share of production is a viable alternative to the usual practice of collecting oil and gas royalties as a share of the value received by the lessee from the sale of production.

Dated: August 21, 2000.

**Lucy Querques Denett,**

*Associate Director for Royalty Management.*

[FR Doc. 00-21687 Filed 8-23-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### **Draft Supplemental EIS/EIR for Acquisition of Additional Water for Meeting the San Joaquin River Agreement Flow Objectives, 2001-2010**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent to prepare a joint Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (DSEIS/EIR).

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the San Joaquin River Group Authority (SJRGa) are preparing a joint DSEIS/EIR, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), to evaluate the purchase of up to 50,000 acre-feet of water annually during the 2001 through 2010 water years from the SJRGa and its members to meet a 31-day spring pulse flow target in the San Joaquin River at Vernalis. The spring pulse flow target in a given water year is dependent on hydrological conditions and is established by Vernalis Adaptive Management Plan (VAMP) flow objectives within the San Joaquin River Agreement (SJRA). When supplemental

flows required to meet the spring pulse flow target exceed 110,000 acre-feet, Reclamation may purchase up to an additional 50,000 acre-feet (i.e., above 110,000 acre-feet) to supplement the spring pulse flows. The additional pulse flows would enter as releases from water purveyors into the Tuolumne and/or Merced Rivers.

**DATES:** Written comments on the scope of the DSEIS/EIR must be received by September 28, 2000. Comments received after this date will be considered, but may not be included in the resulting DSEIS/EIR scope.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to Mr. John Burke, Water Acquisition Program Manager (MP410), Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825; fax 916/978-5290.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Burke at the above address or by telephone at: 916/978-5556 (TDD 916/978-5608).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The SJRGa was established to provide a level of protection equivalent to the San Joaquin River flow objectives contained in the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) *1995 Water Quality Control Plan* for the lower San Joaquin River and San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary (Delta). A key part of the SJRA is the VAMP which is a scientifically based adaptive fishery management plan to help determine the relationships between flows, exports, and other factors on fish survival in this region of the Delta. The SWRCB adopted pertinent provisions of the SJRA on December 29, 1999, and issued its Revised Water Right Decision 1641 (D-1641) containing these provisions on March 15, 2000. D-1641 approved implementation of the VAMP through December 31, 2011.

A joint Final EIS/EIR was prepared in January 1999 by the SJRGa and Reclamation to meet CEQA and NEPA requirements to address environmental impacts associated with acquiring water to meet the flow objectives in the SJRA. This document addressed the need for up to 110,000 acre-feet to meet a 31-day spring pulse flow target in the San Joaquin River at Vernalis. The SJRA allows for willing sellers among the SJRGa to sell Reclamation additional water when the spring pulse flow target exceeds 110,000 acre-feet. The Final EIS/EIR prepared for the SJRA acknowledged the need for this additional water from willing sellers in some water years but did not address the environmental impacts associated with acquiring this supplemental water.

The purpose of the DSEIS/EIR is to update and supplement analyses presented in the 1999 Final EIS/EIR to address the acquisition of up to 50,000 acre-feet of water annually during the 2001 through 2010 water years. The DSEIS/EIR analysis will include a detailed hydrologic analysis and will focus on potential impacts involving the following resources: Surface Water, Ground Water, Vegetation and Wildlife Resources, Fishery Resources, Land Use, Recreation, Energy Resources, and Cultural Resources. Also, the DSEIS/EIR will address the following issues: potential sources of water supply (e.g., carryover storage, ground water, conservation/tailwater recovery), alternative releases on the tributaries (Tuolumne and Merced rivers), effects on exports/water supply, estimated water quality at Vernalis, potential effects on anadromous fish including steelhead, and cumulative impacts.

Dated: August 10, 2000.

**Richard G. Kristof,**

*Acting Regional Resources Manager.*

[FR Doc. 00-20772 Filed 8-23-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-MN-P**

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meeting

**AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:** United States International Trade Commission.

**TIME AND DATE:** August 30, 2000 at 11:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** Room 101, 500 E Street S.W., Washington, DC 20436, Telephone: (202) 205-2000.

**STATUS:** Open to the public.

#### MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Agenda for future meeting: None.
2. Minutes.
3. Ratification List.
4. Inv. Nos. 731-TA-885-887 (Preliminary) (Desktop Note Counters and Scanners from China, Korea, and the United Kingdom)—briefing and vote. (The Commission is currently scheduled to transmit its determination to the Secretary of Commerce on August 31, 2000; Commissioners' opinions are currently scheduled to be transmitted to the Secretary of Commerce on September 8, 2000.)

5. Outstanding action jackets:

(1) Document No. EC-00-015: Approval of final report in Inv. No. 332-412 (The Year in Trade 1999, Operation of the Trade Agreements Program, 51st Report).

In accordance with Commission policy, subject matter listed above, not disposed of at the scheduled meeting,

may be carried over to the agenda of the following meeting.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: August 22, 2000.

**Donna R. Koehnke,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 00-21763 Filed 8-22-00; 1:30 pm]

**BILLING CODE 7020-02-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

August 16, 2000.

The Department of Labor (DOL) has submitted the following public information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 44 U.S.C. chapter 35). A copy of each individual ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Department of Labor. To obtain documentation for BLS, ETA, PWBA, and OASAM contact Karin Kurz ((202) 219-5096 ext. 159 or by E-mail to Kurz-Karin@dol.gov). To obtain documentation for ESA, MSHA, OSHA, and VETS contact Darrin King ((202) 219-5096 ext. 151 or by E-Mail to King-Darrin@dol.gov).

Comments should be sent to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for BLS, DM, ESA, ETA, MSHA, OSHA, PWBA, or VETS, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503 ((202) 395-7316), within 30 days from the date of this publication in the **Federal Register**.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments which:

- evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or

other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Agency:* Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration.

*Title:* Application for EFAST Electronic Signature and Codes for EFAST Transmitters and Software Developers.

*OMB Number:* 1210-0117.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.

*Total Respondents:* 240,250.

*Total Responses:* 240,250.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 20 minutes.

*Total Estimated Burden Hours:* 80,083.

*Total Annualized Capital/Startup Costs:* \$0.

*Total Annual Cost (Operating and Maintenance):* \$91,000.

*Description:* On February 2, 2000, the Department of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, the Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation announced the new computer scannable "hand print" and "machine print" formats for the revised Form 5500 Series. Using scannable forms and electronic filing technologies under the ERISA Filing and Acceptance System—EFAST, the revised Form 5500 Series was designed to simplify and expedite processing of returns/reports concerning the financial conditions and operations of certain employee benefit plans and fringe benefit plans.

In order to participate in the electronic filing program, applicants are required to submit an Application for EFAST Electronic Signature and Codes for EFAST Transmitters and Software Developers (Form EFAST-1), the subject of this ICR. Applicants who may file the Form EFAST-1 include: (1) individuals applying for an electronic signature to sign a Form 5500 or 5500-EZ; (2) transmitters applying for codes; and (3) software developers applying for codes. The information provided by Form EFAST-1 applicants, combined with the codes supplied to the applicants by EFAST, allows EFAST to verify a filer, transmitter, of software developer's standing as a qualified participant in the electronic filing program. EFAST-1 information also established a means of