

- Submission of an exploration plan within 8 years of lease issuance
- Economic incentives structured similar in form to those contained in the Proposed Notice of Sale for Beaufort Sea Sale 186 (68 FR 8306, February 20, 2003).

Incentives proposed for Beaufort Sea Sale 186 are:

- Royalty suspension volumes (RSV) for oil production (with possible consideration for gas)
- Subject to a price floor per barrel below which oil production that is royalty free does not count against the RSV
- Price ceiling per barrel above which production must bear full royalties

*C. Relation to Coastal Management Plans.* Comments also are sought on potential conflicts with approved local coastal management plans (CMP) that may result from the proposed sale and future OCS oil and gas activities. These comments should identify specific CMP policies of concern, the nature of the conflicts foreseen, and steps that MMS could take to avoid or mitigate the potential conflicts. Comments may be in terms of broad areas or restricted to particular blocks of concern. Commenters are requested to list block numbers or outline the subject area on the large-scale Call map.

#### 5. Use of Information from Call

Information submitted in response to this Call will be used for several purposes. We will use responses to:

- Determine whether to proceed with a competitive oil and gas lease sale in Norton Basin
- Identify specific areas of interest for oil and/or gas exploration and development
- Identify environmental effects and potential use conflicts
- Assist in the public outreach for the environmental analysis
- Develop possible alternatives to the proposed action
- Develop lease terms and conditions and mitigating measures
- Identify potential conflicts between oil and gas activities and the Alaska CMP

#### 6. Existing Information

An extensive environmental, social, and economic studies program has been underway in the Alaska OCS Region since 1976, including studies in this area. The emphasis has been on geologic mapping, environmental characterization of biologically sensitive habitats, endangered whales and marine mammals, physical oceanography, ocean-circulation modeling, and

ecological and socio-cultural effects of oil and gas activities.

The MMS has had one past sale in the Norton Basin area. In March 1983, Sale 57 was held and resulted in 59 leases being issued. There were six exploratory wells drilled, but all have been permanently plugged and abandoned. All 59 leases have since been relinquished or have expired. For the Norton Basin Planning Area, it is estimated that undiscovered conventionally recoverable resources are 0.05 billion barrels of oil and 2.71 trillion cubic feet of gas.

Information on the studies program, completed studies, and a program status report for continuing studies in this area may be obtained from the Chief, Environmental Studies Section, Alaska OCS Region, by telephone request at (907) 271-6577, or by written request at the address stated under Description of Area. A request may also be made via the Alaska Region Web site at [akwebmaster@mms.gov](mailto:akwebmaster@mms.gov).

#### 7. Tentative Schedule

If MMS receives specific nominations from industry in response to this Call and decides to proceed with the pre-sale process, the following is a list of tentative milestone dates applicable to a Norton Basin sale in 2004:

	Tentative Process milestones for proposed 2004 Norton Basin Sale
Call published/public outreach initiated.	March 2003.
Comments due on Call .....	June 2003.
Decision whether to proceed/ Area Identification.	July 2003.
NEPA analysis .....	January 2004.
Consistency Determination/ Proposed Notice of Sale.	April 2004.
Governor's Comments due ...	June 2004.
Final Notice of Sale published.	August 2004.
Sale .....	September 2004.

Dated: March 19, 2003.

**R. M. "Johnnie" Burton,**

*Director, Minerals Management Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

March 18, 2003.

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 this ICR, with applicable supporting documentation, may be obtained by calling the Department of Labor. To obtain documentation contact Darrin King on 202-693-4129 or E-Mail: [King.Darrin@dol.gov](mailto:King.Darrin@dol.gov).

Comments should be sent to Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attn: OMB Desk Officer for ETA, 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.

*Agency:* Employment and Training Administration (ETA).

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

*Title:* Claims and Payment Activities.

*OMB Number:* 1205-0010.

*Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Government.

*Type of Response:* Reporting.

*Frequency:* Monthly.

*Number of Respondents:* 53.