

discussion will include manager's reports of field office activities; an update on the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998; and other topics the council may raise.

All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written and/or oral comments to the council. Individuals who need special assistance such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations should contact Phillip Guerrero at (702) 515-5046.

DATE AND TIME: The RAC will meet on December 4 and 5, 2003, in the BLM's Las Vegas Field Office; on March 25 and 26, 2004 also in the BLM's Las Vegas Field Office; June 9, 10 and 11, 2004, in the BLM's Ely Field Office; and August 19 and 20, 2004, in the BLM's Tonopah Field Station. The meetings are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Phillip L. Guerrero, Public Affairs Officer, BLM Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130-2301, or by phone at (702) 515-5046.

Dated: November 12, 2003.

Phillip L. Guerrero,

Public Affairs Officer, Las Vegas Field Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of an information collection (1010-0051).

SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), MMS is inviting comments on a collection of information that will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The information collection request (ICR) concerns the paperwork requirements in the regulations under "30 CFR 250, Subpart L, Oil and Gas Production Measurement, Surface Commingling, and Security."

DATE: Submit written comments by January 20, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Mail or hand carry comments to the Department of the

Interior; Minerals Management Service; Attention: Rules Processing Team; Mail Stop 4024; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817. If you wish to e-mail comments, the address is: rules.comments@mms.gov. Reference "Information Collection 1010-0051" in your e-mail subject line and mark your message for return receipt. Include your name and return address in your message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Arlene Bajusz, Rules Processing Team at (703) 787-1600. You may also contact Arlene Bajusz to obtain a copy, at no cost, of the regulations that require the subject collection of information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 30 CFR 250, Subpart L, Oil and Gas Production Measurement, Surface Commingling, and Security.

OMB Control Number: 1010-0051.

Abstract: The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.* and 43 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to prescribe rules and regulations to administer leasing of the OCS. Such rules and regulations apply to all operations conducted under a lease. Operations on the OCS must preserve, protect, and develop oil and natural gas resources in a manner that is consistent with the need to make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible; to balance orderly energy resource development with protection of human, marine, and coastal environments; to ensure the public a fair and equitable return on the resources of the OCS; and to preserve and maintain free enterprise competition.

The Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 (30 U.S.C. 1701, *et seq.*) at section 1712(b)(2) prescribes that an operator will "develop and comply with such minimum site security measures as the Secretary deems appropriate, to protect oil or gas produced or stored on a lease site or on the Outer Continental Shelf from theft." These authorities and responsibilities are among those delegated to MMS under which regulations are issued to govern oil and gas and sulphur operations in the OCS. This information collection request addresses the regulations at 30 CFR part 250, subpart L, Oil and Gas Production Measurement, Surface Commingling, and Security, and the associated supplementary notices to lessees and

operators intended to provide clarification, description, or explanation of these regulations.

MMS uses the information collected under subpart L to ensure that the volumes of hydrocarbons produced are measured accurately and that royalties are paid on the proper volumes. Specifically, MMS needs the information to:

- Determine if measurement equipment is properly installed, provides accurate measurement of production on which royalty is due, and is operating properly;

- Obtain rates of production data in allocating the volumes of production measured at royalty sales meters, which can be examined during field inspections;

- Ascertain if all removals of oil and condensate from the lease are reported;

- Determine the amount of oil that was shipped when measurements are taken by gauging the tanks rather than being measured by a meter;

- Ensure that the sales location is secure and that production cannot be removed without the volumes being recorded; and

- Review proving reports to verify that data on run tickets are calculated and reported accurately.

MMS will protect information from respondents considered proprietary under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and its implementing regulations (43 CFR part 2) and under regulations at 30 CFR 250.196, "Data and information to be made available to the public." No items of a sensitive nature are collected. Responses are mandatory.

Frequency: Varies by section but primarily monthly or "on occasion."

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: Approximately 130 Federal OCS oil and gas or sulphur lessees.

Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: The currently approved annual reporting burden for this collection is 6,540 hours. The following chart details the individual components and respective hour burden estimates of this ICR. In calculating the burdens, MMS assumed that respondents perform certain requirements in the normal course of their activities. We consider these to be usual and customary and took that into account in estimating the burden.