

- (3) Bailing sand;
- (4) Pressure surveys;
- (5) Swabbing;
- (6) Scale or corrosion treatment;
- (7) Caliper and gauge surveys;
- (8) Corrosion inhibitor treatment;
- (9) Removing or replacing subsurface pumps;
- (10) Through-tubing logging (diagnostics);
- (11) Wireline fishing;
- (12) Setting and retrieving other subsurface flow-control devices; and
- (13) Acid treatments.

*Sensitive reservoir* means a reservoir in which the production rate will affect ultimate recovery.

*Significant archaeological resource* means those archaeological resources that meet the criteria of significance for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places as defined in 36 CFR 60.4, or its successor.

*Suspension* means a granted or directed deferral of the requirement to produce (Suspension of Production (SOP)) or to conduct leaseholding operations (Suspension of Operations (SOO)).

*Venting* means the release of gas into the atmosphere without igniting it. This includes gas that is released underwater and bubbles to the atmosphere.

*Waste of oil, gas, or sulphur* means:

- (1) The physical waste of oil, gas, or sulphur;
- (2) The inefficient, excessive, or improper use, or the unnecessary dissipation of reservoir energy;
- (3) The locating, spacing, drilling, equipping, operating, or producing of any oil, gas, or sulphur well(s) in a manner that causes or tends to cause a reduction in the quantity of oil, gas, or sulphur ultimately recoverable under prudent and proper operations or that causes or tends to cause unnecessary or excessive surface loss or destruction of oil or gas; or
- (4) The inefficient storage of oil.

*Welding* means all activities connected with welding, including hot tapping and burning.

*Wellbay* is the area on a facility within the perimeter of the outermost wellheads.

*Well-completion operations* means the work conducted to establish production

from a well after the production-casing string has been set, cemented, and pressure-tested.

*Well-control fluid* means drilling mud, completion fluid, or workover fluid as appropriate to the particular operation being conducted.

*Western Gulf of Mexico* means all OCS areas of the Gulf of Mexico except those the Director decides are adjacent to the State of Florida. The Western Gulf of Mexico is not the same as the Western Planning Area, an area established for OCS lease sales.

*Workover operations* means the work conducted on wells after the initial well-completion operation for the purpose of maintaining or restoring the productivity of a well.

*You* means a lessee, the owner or holder of operating rights, a designated operator or agent of the lessee(s), a pipeline right-of-way holder, or a State lessee granted a right-of-use and easement.

[64 FR 72775, Dec. 28, 1999, as amended at 68 FR 8422, Feb. 20, 2003; 70 FR 41573, July 19, 2005; 70 FR 51500, Aug. 30, 2005; 71 FR 23862, Apr. 25, 2006; 75 FR 20288, Apr. 19, 2010]

#### PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

##### **§ 250.106 What standards will the Director use to regulate lease operations?**

The Director will regulate all operations under a lease, right-of-use and easement, or right-of-way to:

- (a) Promote orderly exploration, development, and production of mineral resources;
- (b) Prevent injury or loss of life;
- (c) Prevent damage to or waste of any natural resource, property, or the environment; and
- (d) Cooperate and consult with affected States, local governments, other interested parties, and relevant Federal agencies.

##### **§ 250.107 What must I do to protect health, safety, property, and the environment?**

- (a) You must protect health, safety, property, and the environment by:
  - (1) Performing all operations in a safe and workmanlike manner; and
  - (2) Maintaining all equipment and work areas in a safe condition.

## § 250.108

(b) You must immediately control, remove, or otherwise correct any hazardous oil and gas accumulation or other health, safety, or fire hazard.

(c) You must use the best available and safest technology (BAST) whenever practical on all exploration, development, and production operations. In general, we consider your compliance with MMS regulations to be the use of BAST.

(d) The Director may require additional measures to ensure the use of BAST:

(1) To avoid the failure of equipment that would have a significant effect on safety, health, or the environment;

(2) If it is economically feasible; and

(3) If the benefits outweigh the costs.

[64 FR 72775, Dec. 28, 1999, as amended at 73 FR 20171, Apr. 15, 2008]

### **§ 250.108 What requirements must I follow for cranes and other material-handling equipment?**

(a) All cranes installed on fixed platforms must be operated in accordance with American Petroleum Institute's Recommended Practice for Operation and Maintenance of Offshore Cranes (API RP 2D), incorporated by reference as specified in 30 CFR 250.198.

(b) All cranes installed on fixed platforms must be equipped with a functional anti-two block device.

(c) If a fixed platform is installed after March 17, 2003, all cranes on the platform must meet the requirements of American Petroleum Institute Specification for Offshore Pedestal Mounted Cranes (API Spec 2C), incorporated by reference as specified in 30 CFR 250.198.

(d) All cranes manufactured after March 17, 2003, and installed on a fixed platform, must meet the requirements of API Spec 2C, incorporated by reference as specified in 30 CFR 250.198.

(e) You must maintain records specific to a crane or the operation of a crane installed on an OCS fixed platform, as follows:

(1) Retain all design and construction records, including installation records for any anti-two block safety devices, for the life of the crane. The records must be kept at the OCS fixed platform.

(2) Retain all inspection, testing, and maintenance records of cranes for at

## 30 CFR Ch. II (7-1-10 Edition)

least 4 years. The records must be kept at the OCS fixed platform.

(3) Retain the qualification records of the crane operator and all rigger personnel for at least 4 years. The records must be kept at the OCS fixed platform.

(f) You must operate and maintain all other material-handling equipment in a manner that ensures safe operations and prevents pollution.

[68 FR 7426, Feb. 14, 2003, as amended at 72 FR 12092, Mar. 15, 2007; 74 FR 46907, Sept. 14, 2009]

### **§ 250.109 What documents must I prepare and maintain related to welding?**

(a) You must submit a Welding Plan to the District Manager before you begin drilling or production activities on a lease. You may not begin welding until the District Manager has approved your plan.

(b) You must keep the following at the site where welding occurs:

(1) A copy of the plan and its approval letter; and

(2) Drawings showing the designated safe-welding areas.

### **§ 250.110 What must I include in my welding plan?**

You must include all of the following in the Welding Plan that you prepare under § 250.109:

(a) Standards or requirements for welders;

(b) How you will ensure that only qualified personnel weld;

(c) Practices and procedures for safe welding that address:

(1) Welding in designated safe areas;

(2) Welding in undesignated areas, including wellbay;

(3) Fire watches;

(4) Maintenance of welding equipment; and

(5) Plans showing all designated safe-welding areas.

(d) How you will prevent spark-producing activities (*i.e.*, grinding, abrasive blasting/cutting and arc-welding) in hazardous locations.

### **§ 250.111 Who oversees operations under my welding plan?**

A welding supervisor or a designated person in charge must be thoroughly