

## § 250.203

those involved with national security or defense; and

(e) Does not cause undue or serious harm or damage to the human, marine, or coastal environment.

### § 250.203 Where can wells be located under an EP, DPP, or DOCD?

The Regional Supervisor reviews and approves proposed well location and spacing under an EP, DPP, or DOCD. In deciding whether to approve a proposed well location and spacing, the Regional Supervisor will consider factors including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Protecting correlative rights;
- (b) Protecting Federal royalty interests;
- (c) Recovering optimum resources;
- (d) Number of wells that can be economically drilled for proper reservoir management;
- (e) Location of drilling units and platforms;
- (f) Extent and thickness of the reservoir;
- (g) Geologic and other reservoir characteristics;
- (h) Minimizing environmental risk;
- (i) Preventing unreasonable interference with other uses of the OCS; and
- (j) Drilling of unnecessary wells.

### § 250.204 How must I protect the rights of the Federal government?

(a) To protect the rights of the Federal government, you must either:

(1) Drill and produce the wells that the Regional Supervisor determines are necessary to protect the Federal government from loss due to production on other leases or units or from adjacent lands under the jurisdiction of other entities (e.g., State and foreign governments); or

(2) Pay a sum that the Regional Supervisor determines as adequate to compensate the Federal government for your failure to drill and produce any well.

(b) Payment under paragraph (a)(2) of this section may constitute production in paying quantities for the purpose of extending the lease term.

(c) You must complete and produce any penetrated hydrocarbon-bearing zone that the Regional Supervisor determines is necessary to conform to sound conservation practices.

## 30 CFR Ch. II (7–1–10 Edition)

### § 250.205 Are there special requirements if my well affects an adjacent property?

For wells that could intersect or drain an adjacent property, the Regional Supervisor may require special measures to protect the rights of the Federal government and objecting lessees or operators of adjacent leases or units.

### § 250.206 How do I submit the EP, DPP, or DOCD?

(a) *Number of copies.* When you submit an EP, DPP, or DOCD to MMS, you must provide:

(1) Four copies that contain all required information (proprietary copies);

(2) Eight copies for public distribution (public information copies) that omit information that you assert is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552) and the implementing regulations (43 CFR part 2); and

(3) Any additional copies that may be necessary to facilitate review of the EP, DPP, or DOCD by certain affected States and other reviewing entities.

(b) *Electronic submission.* You may submit part or all of your EP, DPP, or DOCD and its accompanying information electronically. If you prefer to submit your EP, DPP, or DOCD electronically, ask the Regional Supervisor for further guidance.

(c) *Withdrawal after submission.* You may withdraw your proposed EP, DPP, or DOCD at any time for any reason. Notify the appropriate MMS OCS Region if you do.

## ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES

### § 250.207 What ancillary activities may I conduct?

Before or after you submit an EP, DPP, or DOCD to MMS, you may elect, the regulations in this part may require, or the Regional Supervisor may direct you to conduct ancillary activities. Ancillary activities include:

(a) Geological and geophysical (G&G) explorations and development G&G activities;