

**§ 135.204 Submission of evidence.**

(a) Where the offshore facility is owned and operated solely by one person, that person must establish and maintain evidence of financial responsibility covering the facility.

(b) Where the offshore facility is owned in its entirety by one person and operated solely by another person, evidence of financial responsibility covering the facility must be established and maintained by either the owner or the operator, or, in consolidated form, by both the owner and operator.

(c) Where the offshore facility is owned or operated by more than one person, evidence of financial responsibility covering the facility must be established and maintained by any one of the owners or operators, or, in consolidated form, by or on behalf of two or more owners or operators.

(d) When evidence of financial responsibility is established in a consolidated form, the proportional share of each participant must be shown. The evidence must be accompanied by a statement authorizing the applicant to act for and in behalf of each participant in submitting and maintaining the evidence of financial responsibility.

(e) Each owner and operator of a facility is subject to the penalty provided by section 312(a) of the Act if evidence of financial responsibility is not established and maintained for that facility.

**§ 135.205 Methods of establishing.**

(a) Evidence of financial responsibility may be established by any one, or any combination acceptable to the Fund Administrator, of the following methods:

- (1) Insurance;
- (2) Guaranty;
- (3) Indemnity;
- (4) Surety bond; or
- (5) Qualification as self-insurer.

(b) The Fund Administrator will accept alternative evidence of financial responsibility if, in the Fund Administrator's opinion, it establishes an equivalent degree of financial responsibility for the purposes of this subpart.

**§ 135.207 Insurance as evidence.**

(a) Insurance filed with the Fund Administrator as evidence of financial responsibility shall be issued by an in-

surer that is acceptable to the Fund Administrator. Those insurers may include domestic and foreign insurance companies, corporations or associations of individual insurers, protection and indemnity associations, or other persons acceptable to the Fund Administrator.

(b) An insurer must:

(1) Agree to be sued directly, within the limits of the policy coverage, by any person for claims under the Act against the owner or operator; and

(2) Designate an agent in the United States for service of process.

(c) Insurance as evidence of financial responsibility must indicate the effective date in the endorsement on the application for Certificate of Financial Responsibility, and must remain in force until the date of termination indicated in the endorsement or until—

(1) 30 days after mailing, by certified mail, to the Fund Administrator, and the person insured, notification of intent to cancel; or

(2) Other evidence of financial responsibility acceptable to the Fund Administrator has been established; or

(3) The facility to which the insurance applies ceases to be a facility under § 135.201(b).

(d) Termination of insurance coverage shall not affect the liability of the insurer for an incident occurring before the effective date of termination.

(e) Confirmation of insurance may be accepted from an insurance broker that is acceptable to the Fund Administrator, subject to the Fund Administrator's approval of the individual underwriters, in lieu of their signature on an application, provided the confirmation:

(1) States the insurance covers liabilities under the Act;

(2) Sets forth the limit and deductible;

(3) Provides for direct action against the individual underwriters to the extent of their contracts;

(4) Names the underwriters and percentages of the limit accepted by each;

(5) States that the underwriters agree to give prior written notice of cancellation or change to the Fund Administrator as required in paragraph (c) of this section; and

(6) States that the notice indicated in paragraph (e)(5) of this section will not affect the underwriter's liability for incidents occurring before the effective date of cancellation.

**§ 135.209 Guaranty as evidence.**

(a) Guarantors must:

(1) Agree to be sued directly, within the limits the guaranty, by any person for claims under the Act against the owner or operator; and

(2) Designate an agent in the United States for service of process.

(b) Guaranties filed as evidence of financial responsibility must be accompanied by the same proof that the Guarantor is financially responsible as this subpart would require of the owner or operator; *i.e.*, insurance, surety bond, self-insurance, or other acceptable methods.

(c) A guaranty as evidence of financial responsibility must indicate the effective date in the endorsement on the application for Certificate of Financial Responsibility, and must remain in force until the date of termination indicated in the endorsement or until:

(1) 30 days after mailing, by certified mail, to the Fund Administrator, and the person guarantied, notification of intent to cancel; or

(2) Other evidence of financial responsibility acceptable to the Fund Administrator has been established; or

(3) The facility to which the guaranty applies ceases to be a facility under § 135.201(b).

(d) Termination of the guaranty shall not affect the liability of the guarantor for an incident occurring before the effective date of termination.

**§ 135.210 Indemnity as evidence.**

(a) An indemnitor must:

(1) Agree to be sued directly, within the limits of the contract coverage, by any person for claims under the Act against the owner or operator to the extent of the indemnity coverage; and

(2) Designate an agent in the United States for service of process.

(b) Indemnity filed as evidence of financial responsibility must be accompanied by the same proof of the indemnitor's financial responsibility as this subpart would require of the owner

or operator; *i.e.*, insurance, surety bond, self-insurance; or other acceptable methods.

(c) An indemnity as evidence of financial responsibility must indicate the effective date in the endorsement on the application for Certificate of Financial Responsibility, and must remain in force until the date of termination indicated in the endorsement or until—

(1) 30 days after mailing, by certified mail, to the Fund Administrator, and the person indemnified, notification of intent to cancel; or

(2) Other evidence of financial responsibility acceptable to the Fund Administrator has been established; or

(3) The facility to which the indemnity applies ceases to be a facility under § 135.201(b).

(d) Termination of an indemnity shall not affect the liability of the indemnitor for an incident occurring before the effective date of termination.

**§ 135.211 Surety bond as evidence.**

(a) Each surety bond filed with the Fund Administrator as evidence of financial responsibility shall be issued by a bonding company that:

(1) Is authorized to do business in the United States;

(2) Is licensed to do business in the state or territory in which the bond is executed;

(3) Is certified by the Department of the Treasury with respect to the issuance of Federal bonds in the penal sum of the bond; and

(4) Designates an agent in the United States for service of process.

(b) The bonding company must agree to be sued directly, within the limits of the surety bond, by any person for claims under the Act against the owner or operator.

(c) A surety bond as evidence of financial responsibility must indicate the effective date in the endorsement on the application for Certificate of Financial Responsibility, and must remain in force until the date of termination indicated in the endorsement or until:

(1) 30 days after mailing, by certified mail, to the Fund Administrator, and