complete measurement of produced
sulphur for royalty purposes.

(b) Evidence of mishandling of pro-
duced sulphur from an offshore lease,
or tampering or falsifying any meas-
urement of production for an offshore
lease, shall be reported to the Regional
Supervisor as soon as possible but no
later than the next business day after
discovery of the evidence of mishan-
dling.

Subpart Q—Decommissioning
Activities

AUTHORITY: 43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.

SOURCE: 67 FR 35406, May 17, 2002, unless
otherwise noted.

GENERAL

§250.1700 What do the terms “decom-
missioning”, “obstructions”, and
“facility” mean?

(a) Decommissioning means:
(1) Ending oil, gas, or sulphur oper-
ations; and
(2) Returning the lease or pipeline
right-of-way to a condition that meets
the requirements of regulations of
MMS and other agencies that have ju-
risdiction over decommissioning ac-
tivities.

(b) Obstructions means structures,
equipment, or objects that were used in
oil, gas, or sulphur operations or mar-
ine growth that, if left in place, would
hinder other users of the OCS. Obstruc-
tions may include, but are not limited
to, shell mounds, wellheads, casing
stubs, mud line suspensions, well pro-
tection devices, subsea trees, jumper
assemblies, umbilicals, manifolds, ter-
mination skids, production and pipe-
line risers, platforms, templates, pil-
lings, pipelines, pipeline valves, and
power cables.

(c) Facility means any installation
other than a pipeline used for oil, gas,
or sulphur activities that is perma-
nently or temporarily attached to the
seabed on the OCS. Facilities include
production and pipeline risers, tem-
plates, pilings, and any other facility
that constitutes an ob-
struction such as jumper assemblies,
termination skids, umbilicals, anchors,
and mooring lines.

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§250.1701 Who must meet the decom-
missioning obligations in this sub-
part?

(a) Lessees and owners of operating
rights are jointly and severally re-
sponsible for meeting decommissioning ob-
ligations for facilities on leases, in-
cluding the obligations related to
lease-term pipelines, as the obliga-
tions accrue and until each obligation is
met.

(b) All holders of a right-of-way are
jointly and severally liable for meeting
decommissioning obligations for facili-
ties on their right-of-way, including
right-of-way pipelines, as the obliga-
tions accrue and until each obligation
is met.

(c) In this subpart, the terms “you”
or “I” refer to lessees and owners of op-
erating rights, as to facilities installed
under the authority of a lease, and to
right-of-way holders as to facilities in-
stalled under the authority of a right-
of-way.

§250.1702 When do I accrue decommis-
sioning obligations?

You accrue decommissioning obliga-
tions when you do any of the following:

(a) Drill a well;

(b) Install a platform, pipeline, or
other facility;

(c) Create an obstruction to other
users of the OCS;

(d) Are or become a lessee or the
owner of operating rights of a lease on
which there is a well that has not been
permanently plugged according to this
subpart, a platform, a lease term pipe-
line, or other facility, or an obstruc-
tion;

(e) Are or become the holder of a
pipeline right-of-way on which there is
a pipeline, platform, or other facility,
or an obstruction; or

(f) Re-enter a well that was pre-
viously plugged according to this sub-
part.

§250.1703 What are the general re-
quirements for decommissioning?

When your facilities are no longer
useful for operations, you must: