§ 3183.3 Executed agreements.

Where a duly executed agreement is submitted for final approval, a minimum of four signed counterparts should be filed. The number of counterparts to be filed for supplementing, modifying, or amending an existing agreement, including change of unit operator, designation of new unit operator, establishment or revision of a participating area, and termination shall be prescribed by the authorized officer.

§ 3183.4 Approval of executed agreement.

(a) A unit agreement shall be approved by the authorized officer upon a determination that such agreement is necessary or advisable in the public interest and is for the purpose of more properly conserving natural resources. Such approval shall be incorporated in a Certification-Determination document appended to the agreement (see §3186.1 of this part for an example), and the unit agreement shall not be deemed effective until the authorized officer has executed the Certification-Determination document. No such agreement shall be approved unless the parties signatory to the agreement hold sufficient interests in the unit area to provide reasonably effective control of operations.

(b) The public interest requirement of an approved unit agreement for unproven areas shall be satisfied only if the unit operator commences actual drilling operations and thereafter diligently prosecute such operations in accordance with the terms of said agreement. If an application is received for voluntary termination of a unit agreement for an unproven area during its fixed term without the public interest requirement having been satisfied, the approval of that agreement by the authorized officer and lease segregations and extensions under §3107.3–2 of this title shall be invalid, and no Federal lease shall be eligible for extensions under §3107.4 of this title.

(c) Any modification of an approved agreement shall require the prior approval of the authorized officer.


§ 3183.5 Participating area.

Two counterparts of a substantiating geologic report, including structure-contour map, cross sections, and pertinent data, shall accompany each application for approval of a participating area or revision thereof under an approved agreement.


§ 3183.6 Plan of development.

Three counterparts of all plans of development and operation shall be submitted for approval under an approved agreement.


§ 3183.7 Return of approved documents.

One approved counterpart of each instrument or document submitted for approval will be returned to the unit operator by the authorized officer or his representative, together with such additional counterparts as may have been furnished for that purpose.


Subpart 3184 [Reserved]  
Subpart 3185—Appeals

§ 3185.1 Appeals.

Any party adversely affected by an instruction, order, or decision issued under the regulations in this part may request an administrative review before the State Director under §3165.3 of this title. Any party adversely affected by a decision of the State Director after State Director review may appeal that decision as provided in part 4 of this title.

[58 FR 58633, Nov. 2, 1993]