Director and Chief Operating Officer
Stuart A. Sirkin, Director, Corporate Policy and Research Department
Andrea E. Schneider, Director, Corporate Finance and Negotiations Department
James J. Keightley, General Counsel

The PBGC will use a neutral facilitator for the committee. The facilitator's role is to chair negotiating sessions and to help committee members define and reach consensus. The PBGC will nominate for the committee's consideration Kate Blunt, Special Assistant to the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Management Officer, to serve as the facilitator of the committee. Ms. Blunt has extensive experience in facilitating meetings, conducting focus groups, and mediating disputes. She will perform her duties as facilitator in an impartial manner.

All committee meetings will be open to the public.

Requests for Representation

Persons who will be significantly affected by the planned proposed rule on reportable events and who believe that their interests will not be adequately represented by the persons identified above may apply, or nominate another person, for membership on the committee to represent their interests. Each application or nomination must include: (1) The name of the applicant or nominee and a description of the interests that person will represent; (2) evidence that the applicant or nominee is authorized to represent parties related to the interests the person proposes to represent; (3) a written commitment that the applicant or nominee will actively participate in good faith in the development of proposed regulations; and (4) the reasons that the persons identified above do not adequately represent the interests of the person submitting the application or nomination.

Committee Expenses and Administrative Support

In most cases, committee members are responsible for their own expenses of participation. The PBGC may pay for certain expenses, in accordance with section 7(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, if (1) a member certifies a lack of adequate financial resources to participate in the committee; and (2) the PBGC determines that such member's participation in the committee is necessary to assure adequate representation of the member's interest.

The PBGC will provide logistical, administrative, and management support to the committee. All meetings will be held at the PBGC's offices in Washington, D.C.

Proposed Agenda and Schedule

The proposed agenda and schedule for the committee's activities will be determined by the committee at the first meeting, which the PBGC anticipates will be held in October of 1995.

The PBGC's goal is to issue a proposed rule on reportable events by the spring of 1996. If it appears that the committee is unable to reach consensus in time to meet this goal, the PBGC may proceed with rulemaking based in part on information gained through the negotiated rulemaking process.

Notice of Establishment of Committee

After reviewing any comments on this Notice of Intent and any requests for representation, the PBGC will issue a notice announcing the establishment of a negotiated rulemaking advisory committee and the date of the first meeting, unless the PBGC decides, based on comments and other relevant considerations, that establishment of the committee is inappropriate. Notice of future meetings will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Issued in Washington, D.C., this 8th day of August, 1995.

Martin Slate,

Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

[FR Doc. 95–19929 Filed 8–10–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7708–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Parts 250 and 256

RIN 1010–AC04

Pipeline Right-of-Way Applications and Assignment Fees; Requirements for Filing of Transfers

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The Minerals Management Service (MMS) proposes to amend its regulations governing the filing fees charged for processing pipeline right-of-way applications and assignments, and applications for approval of instruments of transfer of a lease or interest. This amendment proposes to increase the filing fees for these documents, which will allow MMS to recover the full processing costs. MMS further proposes to adjust the filing fees by indexing them to the Consumer Price Index ''U'' which will enable MMS to continue to recover the processing costs of these documents. MMS will periodically publish these filing fee increases in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Comments must be received or postmarked no later than October 10, 1995 to be consider in this rulemaking.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be mailed or hand-carried to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Mail Stop 4700; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 22070–4817; Attention: Chief, Engineering and Standards Branch.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andy Radford, telephone (703) 787–1144 or Jo Ann Lauterbach, telephone (703) 787–1606.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

MMS last increased the filing fees for pipeline right-of-way applications and assignments on April 1, 1988. At that time, the fee for a pipeline right-of-way application was increased to $1,400, and the fee for a pipeline right-of-way assignment was increased to $50. MMS has not changed the $25 filing fee for instruments of transfer of a lease or interest since the administration of regulations concerning Outer Continental Shelf minerals and rights-of-way was transferred to MMS from the Bureau of Land Management under Amendment No. 1 to Secretarial Order No. 3071, dated May 10, 1982.

During the years since MMS last adjusted these filing fees, the costs to process these documents have increased. MMS conducted in-house cost analyses based on the costs of salaries and benefits, computer time, and overhead in each of the regional offices to determine the average processing cost for each of these documents. The results showed that MMS is undercharging for these services, and therefore, MMS is proposing to increase the fees.

This amendment proposes to increase the filing fee for a pipeline right-of-way application from $1,400 to $2,350; the filing fee for a pipeline right-of-way assignment from $50 to $60; and the filing fee for instruments of transfer of a lease or an interest from $25 to $185. Further, the amendment proposes to index the filing fees to the Consumer Price Index ''U''. The MMS will announce subsequent changes to the filing fee in the **Federal Register**.

Authors: The principal authors for this proposed rule are Andy Radford and Jo Ann Lauterbach, Engineering and Standards Branch, MMS.

Executive Order (E.O.) 12866

The Department of the Interior (DOI) reviewed this proposed rule under E.O. 12866 and determined that this document is not a significant rule.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The DOI has determined that this proposed rule will not have a significant economic effect on a substantial number of small entities. Any direct effects of this rulemaking will primarily affect OCS lessees and operators—entities that are generally not small due to the technical complexities and financial resources necessary to conduct OCS activities.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the collections of information contained in this proposed rule under 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq., and assigned clearance numbers 1010–0050 and 1010–0006.

Takings Implication Assessment

The DOI certifies that the proposed rule does not represent a governmental action capable of interference with constitutionally protected property rights. This action does not require a Takings Implication Assessment prepared pursuant to E.O. 12630, Government Action and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights.

E.O. 12778

The DOI has certified to OMB that this proposed rule meets the applicable civil justice reform standards provided in Sections 2(a) and 2(b)(2) of E.O. 12778.

National Environmental Policy Act

The DOI has determined that this action does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment; therefore, this action does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

List of Subjects

30 CFR Part 250

Continental shelf, Environmental impact statements, Environmental protection, Government contracts, Incorporation by reference, Investigations, Mineral royalties, Oil and gas development and production, Oil and gas exploration, Oil and gas reserves, Penalties, Pipelines, Public lands—mineral resources, Public lands—rights-of-way, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulphur development and production, Sulphur exploration, Surety bonds.

30 CFR Part 256

Administrtive practice and procedure, Continental shelf, Government contracts, Incorporation by reference, Oil and gas exploration, Public lands—mineral resources, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Surety bonds.

Dated: May 12, 1995.

Bob Armstrong,

Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 30 CFR parts 250 and 256 are proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 250—OIL AND GAS AND SULPHUR OPERATIONS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

1. The authority citation for part 250 is amended to read as follows:

Authority: 43 U.S.C. 1334.

2. Section 250.160 is amended by revising the fifth sentence and adding a new sentence following the fifth sentence in paragraph (a) to read as follows:

§ 250.160 Applications for a pipeline right-of-way grant.

(a) * * * A nonrefundable filing fee of $2,350 and the rental required under § 250.159(c)(2) of this part must accompany a new right-of-way application. MMS will periodically make technical amendments to adjust the filing fee according to the Consumer Price Index ''U''. * * *

* * * * *

3. Section 250.163 is amended by revising the last sentence in paragraph (b) and adding a new sentence following the last sentence to read as follows;

§ 250.163 Assignment of a right-of-way grant.

* * * * *

(b) * * * A nonrefundable filing fee of $60 must accompany the application for the approval of an assignment. MMS will periodically make technical amendments to adjust the filing fee according to the Consumer Price Index ''U''.

PART 256—LEASING OF SULPHUR OR OIL AND GAS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

4. The authority citation for part 256 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*

5. Section 256.64 is amended by revising the first sentence in paragraph (a)(2) and adding a new sentence following the first sentence to read as follows:

§ 256.64 Requirements for filing of transfers.

(a) * * *

(2) A nonrefundable filing fee of $185 must accompany an application for approval of any instrument of transfer required to be filed. MMS will periodically make technical amendments to adjust the filing fee according to the Consumer Price Index ''U''. * * *

[FR Doc. 95–19233 Filed 8–10–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–MR–M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

37 CFR Part 1

[Docket No. 95–0720187–5187–01]

RIN 0651–AA79

Rules of Practice in Patent Cases; Reexamination Proceedings

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Patent and Trademark Office (Office) is proposing to amend its rules of practice in patent cases to provide revised procedures for the reexamination of patents. H.R. 1732 proposes to authorize the extension of reexamination proceedings as a means for improving the quality of United States patents. The Office intends, through this proposed amendment of its rules, to provide patent owners and the public with guidance on the procedures the Office would follow in conducting reexamination proceedings.

DATES: A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 1995, at the Stouffer Renaissance Crystal City Hotel, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia, 22202 at 9:30 a.m. Those wishing to present oral testimony must request an opportunity to do so no later than September 14, 1995. Written comments must be submitted on or before September 22, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning the rule changes should be addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box DAC, Washington, D.C. 20231, marked to the attention of Gerald A. Dost, Senior Legal Advisor, Special Program Law Office, Crystal Park 1, Suite 520. In addition, written comments may also be sent by facsimile transmission to (703) 308–6919 with a confirmation copy mailed to the above address, or by electronic mail messages over the Internet to reexamrule@uspto.gov.