

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Minerals Management Service****30 CFR Part 206 and 208**

RIN 1010-AC09

Meetings on Proposed Rule—Oil Valuation Establishment; Federal Royalty and Federal Leases Royalty Oil Sales

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of revised meeting dates.

SUMMARY: This notice changes the dates for public meetings in Denver, Colorado, and Houston, Texas, to discuss a proposed rulemaking regarding the valuation of crude oil and royalty oil sales produced from mineral leases on Federal land. The new dates for the Denver and Houston meetings are April 15 and 17, 1997, respectively. The proposal was published in the Federal Register on January 24, 1997, (62 FR 3741). Comments on this rule must be submitted to Minerals Management Service (MMS) by April 28, 1997. The purpose of these meetings is to explain the proposed changes to the regulations governing the valuation for royalty purposes of crude oil produced from Federal leases and allow all interested parties to discuss the proposed rulemaking. Interested parties are invited to attend and participate at these meetings.

DATES: Public meetings will be held in Denver, Colorado, on April 15, 1997, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mountain time; and in Houston, Texas, on April 17, 1997, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Central time.

ADDRESSES: The Denver Meeting will be held in the Veterans Affairs Building, 155 N. Van Gordon St., Lakewood, Colorado 80228, telephone number: (303) 914-5800.

The Houston Meeting will be held in the Houston Compliance Division Office, Minerals Management Service, 4141 North Sam Houston Parkway East, Houston, Texas 77032 telephone number: (281) 987-6802.

If you will be attending a meeting, please contact Mary Kay Reynolds at telephone number: (303) 275-7259 at least 2 days prior to the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David S. Guzy, Chief, Rules and Publications Staff, Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3101, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165, telephone number: (303) 231-3432, fax number (303) 231-3194, e-Mail David __Guzy@smtp.mms.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meetings will be open to the public without advance registration. Public attendance may be limited to the space available. For building security measures, each person may be required to present a picture identification to gain entry to the meeting.

The meeting will be organized into two sessions:

- MMS presentation of proposed rule, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Public commenting on proposed rule, 11 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Members of the public may make statements during the meeting and are encouraged to file written statements for consideration.

Dated: February 19, 1997.

Joan Killgore,

Acting Associate Director for Royalty Management.

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BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement**30 CFR Part 943**

[SPATS No. TX-033-FOR]

Texas Regulatory Program and Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Plan

AGENCY: Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM), Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; public comment period and opportunity for public hearing.

SUMMARY: OSM is announcing receipt of a proposed amendment to the Texas regulatory program and abandoned mine land reclamation plan (hereinafter the "Texas program") under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). The proposed amendment consists of codification of the Texas Coal Mining Regulations in the Texas Administrative Code at Part 16, Economic Regulation, Chapter 12. The amendment is intended to conform the Texas Coal Mining Regulations to Texas Administrative Code formatting syntax, to correct typographical errors, and to allow for the publication of the rules in the Texas Administrative Code in full text rather than by reference.

DATES: Written comments must be received by 4:00 p.m., c.s.t., March 24, 1997. If requested, a public hearing on the proposed amendment will be held on March 18, 1997. Requests to speak at the hearing must be received by 4:00 p.m., c.s.t. on March 10, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests to speak at the hearing should be mailed or hand delivered to Ervin J. Barchenger, Acting Director, Tulsa Field Office, at the address listed below.

Copies of the Texas program, the proposed amendment, a listing of any scheduled public hearings, and all written comments received in response to this document will be available for public review at the addresses listed below during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Each requester may receive one free copy of the proposed amendment by contacting OSM's Tulsa Field Office.

Ervin J. Barchenger, Acting Director, Tulsa Field Office, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 5100 East Skelly Drive, Suite 470, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74135-6547, Telephone: (918) 581-6430.

Surface Mining and Reclamation Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, 1701 North Congress Avenue, P.O. Box 12967, Austin, Texas, 78711-2967, Telephone: (512) 463-6900.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ervin J. Barchenger, Acting Director, Tulsa Field Office, Telephone: (918) 581-6430.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background on the Texas Program**

On February 16, 1980, the Secretary of the Interior conditionally approved the Texas program. General background information on the Texas program, including the Secretary's findings, the disposition of comments, and the conditions of approval can be found in the February 27, 1980, Federal Register (45 FR 12998). Subsequent actions concerning the Texas program can be found at 30 CFR 943.10, 943.15, and 943.16.

II. Description of the Proposed Amendment

By letter dated January 30, 1997 (Administrative Record No. TX-633), Texas submitted a proposed amendment to its program pursuant to SMCRA. Texas submitted the proposed amendment at its own initiative. Texas proposes to codify the Texas Coal Mining Regulations (TCMR) in the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) at Part 16, Economic Regulation, Chapter 12 in full text rather than by reference.

Specifically, Texas proposes to codify TCMR Parts 700 through 850, pertaining to surface coal mining and reclamation operations, at TAC §§ 12.1 through 12.710. Texas also proposes to codify TCMR §§ 051.800 through 051.817, pertaining to the Texas abandoned mine