

is computed each year for the 12 month period ending September 30 for applicability effective January 1 of the following year. The rate in effect for calendar year 1997 is 5 percent. As noted above, however, that rate is subject to change and filers owing interest should verify the current interest rate.

2. The interest is assessed only on the amount of the registration fee due, and begins to accrue on the 91st day following the end of the issuer's fiscal year. The amount of interest due should be calculated based on the interest rate in effect at the time the interest payment is made using the following formula:

$$I = (X) (Y) (Z/365)$$

Where:

I = Amount of interest due

X = Amount of registration fee due

Y = Applicable interest rate, expressed as a percentage

Z = Number of days by which the registration fee payment is late

E. Payment and Signature

1. Item 8—Identify which SEC account number (payor's CIK number) was designated to receive the payment.

2. The Form must be signed on behalf of the issuer by an authorized officer of the issuer. See rule 302 of Regulation S-T [17 CFR 232.302] regarding signatures on forms filed electronically.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Parts 202, 206, and 211

RIN 1010-AC02

Amendments to Gas Valuation Regulations for Federal Leases

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of further extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: The Minerals Management Service (MMS) hereby gives notice that it is extending the public comment period for a notice requesting comments on supplemental information which was published in the **Federal Register** on April 22, 1997, (62 FR 19536). In this notice MMS withdrew its proposed rulemaking to amend the regulations for valuing natural gas produced from Federal leases and requested comments on supplemental options for natural gas valuation.

In response to requests for additional time, MMS will further extend the comment period from July 23, 1997, to September 22, 1997.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before September 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments or suggestions should be sent to the following addresses.

For comments sent via the U.S. Postal Service use: Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, Rules and Publications Staff, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3021, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165.

For comments via courier or overnight delivery service use: Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, Rules and Publications Staff, MS 3021, Building 85, Denver Federal Center, Room A-613, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David S. Guzy, Chief, Rules and Publications Staff, phone: (303) 231-3432, FAX: (303) 231-3385 or (303) 231-3194, e-Mail: David_Guzy@mms.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: MMS received requests from representatives of the oil and gas industry to extend the comment period of this notice. This time extension is in response to these requests in order to provide commentators with adequate time to provide detailed comments.

Dated: July 15, 1997.

Lucy Querques Denett,

Associate Director for Royalty Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

30 CFR Part 935

[OH-241-FOR, #74]

Ohio Regulatory Program

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

ACTION: Proposed rule; reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: OSM is reopening the public comment period on a proposed amendment to the Ohio permanent regulatory program (hereinafter referred to as the "Ohio program") under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA). The proposed amendment consists of revisions to section 150:13-6-03 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) dealing with the Small Operator Assistance Program (SOAP). The amendment is intended to revise the Ohio program to be consistent with the corresponding Federal regulations.

DATES: Written comments must be received by 4:00 p.m., [E.D.T.] August 4, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests to speak at the hearing should be mailed or hand delivered to George Rieger, Field Branch Chief, at the address listed below.

Copies of the Ohio 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 Appalachian Regional Coordinating Center.

George Rieger, Field Branch Chief,
Appalachian Regional Coordinating
Center, Office of Surface Mining
Reclamation and Enforcement, 3
Parkway Center, Pittsburgh PA 15220,
Telephone: (412) 937-2153
Ohio Division of Mines and
Reclamation, 1855 Fountain Square
Court, Columbus, Ohio 43244,
Telephone: (614) 265-1076.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

George Rieger, Field Branch Chief,
Appalachian Regional Coordinating
Center, Telephone: (412) 937-2153.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background on the Ohio Program

On August 16, 1982, the Secretary of the Interior conditionally approved the Ohio program. Background information on the Ohio program, including the Secretary's findings, the disposition of comments, and the conditions of approval can be found in the August 10, 1982, **Federal Register** (47 FR 34688). Subsequent actions concerning conditions of approval and program amendments can be found at 30 CFR 935.11, 935.15, and 935.16.

II. Description of the Proposed Amendment

By letter dated October 3, 1996, (Administrative Record No. OH-2170-00) Ohio submitted a proposed amendment to its program regarding its SOAP pursuant to SMCRA. Ohio submitted the proposed amendment at its own initiative. OSM announced receipt of the proposed amendment in the October 18, 1996, **Federal Register** (61 FR 54373) and in the same document opened the public comment period and provided an opportunity for a public hearing on the adequacy of the proposed amendment. The public comment period closed on November

18, 1996. (At the time of announcement, the proposed amendment was identified as [OH-240; Amendment Number 74]. Please note that the amendment is now identified as [OH-241; Amendment Number 74].) However, there was no requirement that historical information be collected, as well as certain cross-reference contained in the proposed amendments were incorrect or inadvertently omitted in that notice. These were conveyed to Ohio in a document dated April 14, 1997, Administrative Record No. OH-2170-07. Also, Ohio had already corrected some of the cross-reference errors and submitted corrections to its proposed amendments in a facsimile document dated April 1, 1997. It agreed to make additional corrections in a letter dated May 27, 1997. On June 24, 1997, Ohio submitted its revisions in response to the April 14, 1997 document. (Administrative Record Nos. OH-2170-06, OH-2170-08, and OH-2170-09 respectively). Therefore, OSM is reopening the public comment period only on the following proposed amendments:

OAC 1501:13-6-03 Small Operator Assistance Program

1. OAC 1501:13-6-03(D)(10)—The cited cross-reference regarding the scale of topographic maps is revised from OAC 1501:13-9-04 to OAC 1501:13-4-09.

2. OAC 1501:13-6-03(F)(2)(c)—The cited cross-reference are revised to ORC 1513.07(B)(2)(n)(i), OAC 1501:13-4-04(J), (J)(18) through (J)(26) and OAC 1501:13-4-13(J), (J)(18) through (J)(26).

3. OAC 1501:13-6-03(F)(2)(d)—The cited cross-reference are revised to include OAC 1501:13-4-05(K) and 1501:13-4-14(J) in addition to those already referenced, i.e. 1513.07(B)(2)(m), OAC 1501:13-4-04(A) and 1501:13-4-13(A).

4. OAC 1501:13-6-03(A)(1)(D) and OAC 1501:13-6-03(F)(2)(d) are revised to include the words "and historical" after the opening phrase "The collection of archaeological".

5. OAC 1501:13-6-03(A)(1)(C) and OAC 1501:13-6-03(F)(2)(C)—The cross-references in the statement "The development of cross-section maps and plans required under (B)(2) of section 1513. of the Revised Code." are revised to (B)(2)(n)(i) of section 1513.07.

6. OAC 1501:13-6-03(A)(1)(D) and OAC 1501:13-6-03(F)(2)(D)—The cross-references in the statement "The collection of archaeological information required under division (B)(2) of section 1513. of the Revised Code. . . ." are

revised to (B)(2)(m) of section 1513.07 of the Revised Code.

7. OAC 1501:13-6-03(D)(9) is the same as (D)(12), therefore (D)(9) has been deleted.

III. Public Comment Procedures

In accordance with the provisions of 30 CFR 732.17(h), OSM is seeking comments on whether the proposed amendment satisfies the applicable program approval criteria of 30 CFR 732.15. Specifically, OSM is seeking comments on the revisions to the State's regulations that were submitted on June 24, 1997 (Administrative Record No. OH-2170-09), with the corrections and additions as noted above. Comments should address whether the proposed amendment satisfies the applicable program approval criteria of 30 CFR 732.15. If the amendment is deemed adequate, it will become part of the Ohio program.

Written Comments

Written comments should be specific, pertain only to the issues proposed in this rulemaking, and include explanations in support of the commenter's recommendations. Comments received after the time indicated under DATES or at locations other than the Appalachian Regional Coordinating Center will not necessarily be considered in the final rulemaking or included in the Administrative Record.

IV. Procedural Determinations

Executive Order 12866

This rule is exempted from review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under Executive Order 12866 (Regulatory Planning and Review).

Executive Order 12988

The Department of the Interior has conducted the reviews required by section 2 of Executive Order 12988 (Civil Justice Reform) and has determined that, to the extent allowed by law, this rule meets the applicable standards of subsections (a) and (b) of that section. However, these standards are not applicable to the actual language of State regulatory programs and program amendments since each such program is drafted and promulgated by a specific State, not by OSM. Under sections 503 and 505 of SMCRA (30 U.S.C. 1253 and 1255) and 30 CFR 730.11, 732.15, and 732.17(h)(10), decisions on proposed State regulatory programs and program amendments submitted by the States must be based solely on a determination of whether the submittal is consistent with SMCRA and

its implementing Federal regulations and whether the other requirements of 30 CFR Parts 730, 731, and 732 have been met.

National Environmental Policy Act

No environmental impact statement is required for this rule since section 702(d) of SMCRA (30 U.S.C. 1292(d)) provides that agency decisions on proposed State regulatory program provisions do not constitute major Federal actions within the meaning of section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).

Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule does not contain information collection requirements that require approval by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3507 *et seq.*).

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Department of the Interior has determined that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*). The State submittal which is the subject of this rule is based upon counterpart Federal regulations for which an economic analysis was prepared and certification made that such regulations would not have a significant economic effect upon a substantial number of small entities. Accordingly, this rule will ensure that existing requirements previously promulgated by OSM will be implemented by the State. In making the determination as to Whether this rule would have a significant economic impact, the Department relied upon the data and assumptions for the counterpart Federal regulations.

Unfunded Mandates

This rule will not impose a cost of \$100 million or more in any given year on any governmental entity or the private sector.

List of Subjects in 30 CFR Part 935

Intergovernmental relations, Surface mining, Underground mining.

Dated: July 10, 1997.

Allen D. Klein,

Regional Director, Appalachian Regional Coordinating Center.

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