

*MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer:* Jo Ann Lauterbach, (202) 208-7744.

Dated: September 30, 1999.

**E.P. Danenberger,**

*Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of extension of currently approved information collection (1010-0057).

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*), we are notifying you that we have submitted the information collection request (ICR) discussed below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. We are also inviting your comments on this ICR. **DATES:** Submit written comments by November 29, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments directly to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (1010-0057), 725 17th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20503. Mail or handcarry a copy of your comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; attention: Rules Processing Team; Mail Stop 4024; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Alexis London, Rules Processing Team, telephone (703) 787-1600. You may also contact Alexis London to obtain a copy of the collection of information at no cost.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* 30 CFR 250, Subpart C, Pollution Prevention and Control.

*OMB Control Number:* 1010-0057.

*Abstract:* The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*) gives the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) the responsibility to preserve, protect, and develop oil and gas resources in the OCS consistent with the need to make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible; balance orderly energy resource development

with protection of human, marine, and coastal environments; ensure the public a fair and equitable return on the resources of the OCS; and preserve and maintain free enterprise competition. The OCS Lands Act also requires the Secretary to administer the provisions of this subchapter relating to the leasing of the OCS, and to prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary "for compliance with the national ambient air quality standards pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*), to the extent that activities authorized under this Act significantly affect the air quality of any State." The OCS Lands Act directs the Secretary to "establish regulations requiring all materials, equipment, tools, containers, and all other items used on the OCS to be properly color coded, stamped, or labeled, wherever practicable, with the owner's identification prior to actual use."

To carry out the responsibilities, we issued regulations at 30 CFR 250, subpart C, Pollution Prevention and Control. These regulations collect information related to new facilities and modifications to existing facilities with respect to pollution prevention and control. In addition, we also issue Notices to Lessees and Operators to clarify and provide additional guidance on some aspects of the regulations.

We collect information under subpart C to ensure that:

- There is no threat of serious, irreparable, or immediate damage to the marine environment and to identify potential hazards to commercial fishing caused by OCS oil and gas exploration, development, and production activities;

- The location of items lost overboard is recorded to aid in recovery by the operator during site clearance activities on the lease;

- Operations are conducted according to all applicable regulations, permit conditions and requirements, and conducted in a safe and workmanlike manner;

- OCS oil and gas operations minimize air pollution of the OCS and adjacent onshore areas and comply with the emission levels specified in the MMS Development and Production Plan approval conditions;

- A data baseline is established for the meteorological, oceanographic, and sea-ice conditions in frontier areas of the OCS to determine that offshore facilities and operational practices can withstand the expected environmental forces in an area;

- Discharge or disposal of drill cuttings, sand, and other well solids, including those containing naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORM),

are properly handled for the protection of OCS workers and the environment; and

- Facilities are inspected daily for the prevention of pollution, and problems observed have been corrected.

If we did not collect the information, we could not carry out the mandate of the OCS Lands Act to ensure safe and environmentally sound operations in the OCS. We could not determine if operations comply with standards to minimize air pollution of the OCS and adjacent onshore areas.

Beginning January 1, 2000, we will conduct a 1-year information collection of meteorological data and air pollutant emissions for production facilities in the Breton National Wildlife Refuge/Wilderness Area (BWA). The information will be submitted on a monthly basis. We will use the information collected from the affected lessees/operators to determine whether emissions from OCS activities may be significantly affecting the air quality of the BWA, a Prevention of Significant Deterioration Class I Area as defined by the Clean Air Act. In addition, the Environmental Protection Agency has promulgated new, more stringent ambient air quality standards for ozone and is drafting regulations dealing with regional haze. It is anticipated that these regulations will require State agencies to perform modeling for ozone and regional haze for their State Implementation Plans (SIPs). The States will require information for the year 2000 on OCS activities in the central and western Gulf of Mexico (GOM). In preparation, we are requiring the affected respondents to collect and report facility, equipment, fuel usage, and other information beginning January 1, 2000. The information will be submitted for the entire year, sometime during March 2001. We will use the information collected from the affected lessees/operators to calculate air pollutant emissions that may significantly impact onshore areas. The emissions inventory will be available for State agencies to help them in preparing the SIPs for the coastal parishes/counties that have been declared as non-attainment areas for ozone.

We will protect proprietary information submitted with the plans according to the Freedom of Information Act and 30 CFR 250.118, "Data and information to be made available to the public." No items of a sensitive nature are collected. Responses are mandatory.

The PRA provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

We published a **Federal Register** notice with the required 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this ICR on August 12, 1999 (64 FR 44043).

*Estimated Number and Description of Respondents:* Approximately 130

Federal OCS sulphur or oil and gas lessees.

*Frequency:* The frequency of reporting is on occasion, monthly, or annual.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden:* 194,311

burden hours, averaging approximately 1,495 hours per respondent. See following chart.

BURDEN BREAKDOWN

Citation 30 CFR 250 subpart C	Reporting and recordkeeping requirement	Annual number	Burden	Annual burden hours
300(b)(1), (2) .....	Obtain approval to add petroleum-based substance to drilling mud system or approval for method of disposal of drill cuttings, sand, & other well solids, including those containing NORM..	130 Lessees .....	3 hours .....	390
300(c) .....	Mark items that could snag or damage fishing devices..	130 Lessees .....	.5 hour .....	65
300(d) .....	Report items lost overboard. ....	130 Lessees .....	1 hour .....	130
303(a), (b), (c), (d), (i), (j); 304(a), (f).	Submit or revise Exploration Plans and Development and Production Plans..	Burden covered under 1010-0049		0
303(k); 304(g) .....	Monitor emissions air quality and submit monthly report (1-year study of selected sites in the BWA area)..	350 Platforms .....	4 hrs per mo×12 mos=48 hrs.	16,800
303(k); 304(a), (g) .....	Monitor and submit basic emission data to MMS or to a State (1-year study of sites in the western/central GOM area on ozone and regional haze air quality ). Submit one-time annual report..	1,500 Platforms .....	2 hrs per mo×12 mos=24 hrs.	36,000
303(l); 304(h) .....	Collect and submit meteorological data .....	130 Reports .....	8 hours .....	1,040
304(a), (f) .....	Request by a State to MMS for basic emission data from existing facilities to update State's emission inventory.	Not routinely collected; see item A.13 for discussion of special study		0
304(e)(2) .....	Submit compliance schedule for application of best available control technology.	5 Requests .....	40 hours .....	200
304(e)(2) .....	Apply for suspension of operations .....	10 Schedules .....	40 hours .....	400
Reporting—Subtotal	.....	Burden covered under 1010-0030		0
Reporting—Subtotal	.....	2,385 .....	.....	55,025
300(d) .....	Record items lost overboard .....	130 Recordkeepers .....	1 hour .....	130
301(a) .....	Inspect drilling/production facilities daily for pollution; maintain inspection/repair records 2 years.	1,525 Facilities .....	.25 hour per day×365 days=91.25 hours.	139,156
Recordkeeping—Subtotal.	.....	1,655 .....	.....	139,286
Reporting & Recordkeeping Total Hour Burden.	.....	4,040 .....	.....	194,311

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost"*

*Burden:* Meteorological data will be collected for 1 year from selected sites pursuant to §§ 250.303(l) and 250.304(h) to determine cumulative impacts of air quality within the 100-kilometer radius of the BWA. The Offshore Operators Committee (OOC) has agreed to undertake this project. The OOC estimates this one-time data collection effort will cost approximately \$750,000.00, which will be expensed to the OCS lessees.

*Comments:* All comments are made a part of the public record. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires each agency " \* \* \* to provide notice \* \* \* and otherwise consult

with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information \* \* \*"

Agencies must specifically solicit comments to: (a) evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Send your comments directly to the offices listed under the addresses section of this notice. The OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, to ensure maximum consideration, OMB should receive public comments by November 29, 1999.

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