

If you wish to comment in response to this notice, 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 September 5, 2001. 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.

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

Dated: May 23, 2001.

John V. Mirabella,
Acting Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

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

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of a currently approved information collection (OMB Control Number 1010-0106).

SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are submitting to OMB for review and approval an information collection request (ICR), titled "30 CFR Part 253, Oil Spill Financial Responsibility." We are also soliciting comments from the public on this ICR.

DATES: Submit written comments by September 5, 2001.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments directly to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (1010-0106), 725 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20503. Mail or hand-carry a copy of your comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Attention: Rules Processing Team; Mail Stop 4024; 381 Elen Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817. If you wish to e-mail comments, the e-mail address is:

rules.comments@mms.gov. Reference "Information Collection 1010-0106" in your e-mail subject line. Include your name and return address in your e-mail

message and mark your message for return receipt.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by the law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alexis London, Rules Processing Team, telephone (703) 787-1600. You may also contact Alexis London to obtain a copy at no cost of the regulations that require the subject collection of information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 30 CFR Part 253, Oil Spill Financial Responsibility.

OMB Control Number: 1010-0106.
Abstract: Title I of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA) (33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*), as amended by the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996 (Pub.L. 104-324), provides at section 1016 that oil spill financial responsibility (OSFR) for offshore facilities be established and maintained according to methods determined acceptable to the President. Section 1016 of OPA supersedes the offshore facility OSFR provisions of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978. These authorities and responsibilities are among those delegated to MMS under which we issue regulations governing oil and gas and sulphur operations in the OCS. The information collection discussed in this notice that we are submitting to OMB addresses the regulations at 30 CFR Part 253, Oil Spill Financial Responsibility for Offshore Facilities, forms MMS-1016 through MMS-1022, and any associated supplementary notices to lessees and operators intended to provide clarification, description, or explanation of these regulations.

The MMS uses the information collected under 30 CFR part 253 to verify compliance with section 1016 of OPA. The information is necessary to confirm that applicants can pay for cleanup and damages from oil-spill discharges from covered offshore

facilities (COFs). Routinely, the information will be used: (a) To establish eligibility of applicants for an OSFR Certification; and (b) as a reference source for clean-up and damage claims associated with oil-spill discharges from COFs; the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of owners, operators, and guarantors; designated U.S. agents for service of process; and persons to contact. To collect most of the information, MMS developed standard forms. The forms and their purposes are:

Form MMS-1016, Designated Applicant Information

The designated applicant uses this form to provide identifying information (company legal name, address, contact name and title, telephone numbers) and to summarize the OSFR evidence. This form is required for each new OSFR Certification application.

Form MMS-1017, Designation of Applicant

When there is more than one responsible party for a COF, they must select a designated applicant. Each responsible party, as defined in the regulations, must use this form to notify MMS of the designated applicant. This form is also used to designate the U.S. agent for service of process for the responsible party(ies) should claims from an oil-spill discharge exceed the amount evidenced by the designated applicant; identifies and provides pertinent information about the responsible party(ies); and lists the covered offshore facilities for which the designated applicant is responsible for OSFR certification. The form identifies each COF by State or OCS region; lease, permit, right of use and easement, or pipeline number; aliquot section; area name; and block number. This form must be submitted with each new OSFRC application in which there is at least one responsible party who is not the designated applicant for a COF.

Form MMS-1018, Self-Insurance or Indemnity Information

This form is used if the designated applicant is self-insuring or using an indemnity as OSFR evidence. As appropriate, either the designated applicant or the designated applicant's indemnitor completes the form to indicate the amount of OSFR coverage and effective and expiration dates. The form also provides pertinent information about the self-insurer or indemnitor and is used to designate a U.S. agent for service of process for claims up to the evidenced amount. This form must be submitted each time

new evidence of OSFR is submitted using either self-insurance or an indemnity.

Form MMS-1019, Insurance Certificate

The designated applicant (representing himself as a direct purchaser of insurance) or his insurance agent or broker and the named insurers complete this form to provide OSFR evidence using insurance. The number of forms to be submitted will depend upon the amount of OSFR required and the number of layers of insurance to evidence the total amount of OSFR required. One form is required for each layer of insurance. The form provides pertinent information about the insurer(s) and designates a U.S. agent for service of process. This form must be submitted at the beginning of the term of the insurance coverage for the designated applicant's COFs.

Form MMS-1020, Surety Bond

Each bonding company that issues a surety bond for the designated applicant must complete this form indicating the amount of surety and effective dates. The form provides pertinent information about the bonding company and designates a U.S. agent for service of process for the amount evidenced by the surety bond. This form must be

submitted at the beginning of the term of the surety bond for the named designated applicant.

Form MMS-1021, Covered Offshore Facilities

The designated applicant submits this form to identify the COFs to which the OSFR evidence applies. The form identifies each COF by State or OCS region; lease, permit, right of use and easement, or pipeline number; aliquot section; area name; block number; and potential worst case oil-spill discharge. This form is required to be submitted with each new OSFR Certification application which includes COFs.

Form MMS-1022, Covered Offshore Facility Changes

During the term of the issued OSFR Certification, the designated applicant submits changes to the current COF listings on this form, including changes to the worst case oil-spill discharge for a COF. This form must be submitted when identified changes occur during the term of an OSFR Certification.

Responses are mandatory. No questions of a "sensitive" nature are asked. Respondents are not required to submit confidential or proprietary information. All public requests for information about an applicant's OSFR

Certification will be processed according to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) procedures.

Frequency: The frequency of submission will vary, but most will respond at least once per year.

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: We estimate there are approximately 600 respondents. Some will be holders of leases, permits, and rights of use and easement in the OCS and in State coastal waters who will appoint approximately 200 designated applicants. Other respondents will be the designated applicants' insurance agents and brokers, bonding companies, and indemnitators. There are no recordkeeping requirements associated with this collection.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: The following chart details the components of the hour burden for the information collection requirements in Part 253 — an estimated annual total of 19,504 burden hours. In estimating the burdens, we assumed that respondents perform certain requirements in the normal course of their activities. We consider these to be usual and customary and took that into account in estimating the burden.

Citation 30 CFR 253	Reporting requirement	Hour burden per response
Subpart B: 11(a)(1); Subpart D: 40, 41	Form MMS-1016, Designated Applicant Information	1
Subpart B: 11(a)(1); Subpart D: 40, 41	Form MMS-1017, Designation of Applicant	9
Subpart C: 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30; Subpart D: 40, 41	Form MMS-1018, Self-insurance or Indemnity Information	1
Subpart C: 29; Subpart D: 40, 41	Form MMS-1019, Insurance Certificate	120
Subpart C: 31; Subpart D: 40, 41	Form MMS-1020, Surety Bond	24
Subpart D: 40, 41	Form MMS-1021, Covered Offshore Facilities	3
Subpart D: 40, 41, 42	Form MMS-1022, Covered Offshore Facilities Changes	1
Subpart B: 12	Request for determination of OSFR applicability	2
Subpart B: 15(e)	Notify MMS of change in ability to comply	1
Subpart B: 15(f)	Provide claimant written explanation of denial	1
Subpart C: 32	Proposal for alternative method to evidence OSFR. No proposals anticipated, but regs provide the opportunity.	120
Subpart F	Claims: MMS will not be involved in the claims process; assessment of the burden is the responsibility of the U.S. Coast Guard as part of its rulemaking on claims against the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (30 CFR parts 135, 136, 137).	
Subpart F: 60	Claimant request to determine whether a guarantor may be liable for a claim.	2

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost" Burden: We have identified no "non-hour cost" burdens.

Comments: Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) 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.

To comply with the public consultation process, on March 8, 2001, we published a **Federal Register** notice (66 FR 13953) announcing that we would submit this ICR to OMB for approval. The notice provided the required 60-day comment period. In

addition, § 253.5 displays the OMB control number for the information collection requirements imposed by the 30 CFR part 253 regulations and forms; specifies that the public may comment at anytime on the collection of information; and provides the address to which they should send comments. We have received no comments in response to these efforts.

If you wish to comment in response to this notice, 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 September 5, 2001. 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.

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

Dated: May 31, 2001.

E.P. Danenberger,
Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.
[FR Doc. 01-19612 Filed 8-3-01; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Quarterly Status Report of Water Service, Repayment, and Other Water-Related Contract Negotiations

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of proposed contractual actions that are new, modified, discontinued, or completed since the last publication of this notice on April 27, 2001. The March 5, 2001, notice should be used as a reference point to identify changes. This notice is one of a variety of means used to inform the public about proposed contractual actions for capital recovery and management of project resources and facilities. Additional Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) announcements of individual contract actions may be published in the **Federal Register** and in newspapers of general circulation in the areas determined by Reclamation to be affected by the proposed action. Announcements may be in the form of news releases, legal notices, official letters, memorandums, or other forms of written material.

Meetings, workshops, and/or hearings may also be used, as appropriate, to provide local publicity. The public participation procedures do not apply to proposed contracts for sale of surplus or interim irrigation water for a term of 1 year or less. Either of the contracting parties may invite the public to observe contract proceedings. All public participation procedures will be coordinated with those involved in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act.

ADDRESSES: The identity of the approving officer and other information pertaining to a specific contract proposal may be obtained by calling or writing the appropriate regional office at the address and telephone number given for each region in the supplementary information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sandra L. Simons, Manager, Water Contracts and Repayment Office, Bureau of Reclamation, PO Box 25007, Denver, Colorado 80225-0007; telephone 303-445-2902.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 226 of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (96 Stat. 1273) and 43 CFR 426.20 of the rules and regulations published in 52 FR 11954, Apr. 13, 1987, Reclamation will publish notice of the proposed or amendatory contract actions for any contract for the delivery of project water for authorized uses in newspapers of general circulation in the affected area at least 60 days prior to contract execution. Pursuant to the "Final Revised Public Participation Procedures" for water resource-related contract negotiations, published in 47 FR 7763, Feb. 22, 1982, a tabulation is provided of all proposed contractual actions in each of the five Reclamation regions. Each proposed action is, or is expected to be, in some stage of the contract negotiation process in 2001. When contract negotiations are completed, and prior to execution, each proposed contract form must be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, or pursuant to delegated or redelegated authority, the Commissioner of Reclamation or one of the regional directors. In some instances, congressional review and approval of a report, water rate, or other terms and conditions of the contract may be involved.

Public participation in and receipt of comments on contract proposals will be facilitated by adherence to the following procedures:

1. Only persons authorized to act on behalf of the contracting entities may negotiate the terms and conditions of a specific contract proposal.

2. Advance notice of meetings or hearings will be furnished to those parties that have made a timely written request for such notice to the appropriate regional or project office of Reclamation.

3. Written correspondence regarding proposed contracts may be made available to the general public pursuant to the terms and procedures of the Freedom of Information Act (80 Stat. 383), as amended.

4. Written comments on a proposed contract or contract action must be submitted to the appropriate regional officials at the locations and within the time limits set forth in the advance public notices.

5. All written comments received and testimony presented at any public hearings will be reviewed and summarized by the appropriate regional office for use by the contract approving authority.

6. Copies of specific proposed contracts may be obtained from the appropriate regional director or his designated public contact as they become available for review and comment.

7. In the event modifications are made in the form of a proposed contract, the appropriate regional director shall determine whether republication of the notice and/or extension of the comment period is necessary.

Factors considered in making such a determination shall include, but are not limited to: (i) The significance of the modification, and (ii) the degree of public interest which has been expressed over the course of the negotiations. As a minimum, the regional director shall furnish revised contracts to all parties who requested the contract in response to the initial public notice.

Acronym Definitions Used Herein

BON Basis of Negotiation
BCP Boulder Canyon Project
Reclamation Bureau of Reclamation
CAP Central Arizona Project
CUP Central Utah Project
CVP Central Valley Project
CRSP Colorado River Storage Project
D&MC Drainage and Minor Construction

FR Federal Register
IDD Irrigation and Drainage District
ID Irrigation District
M&I Municipal and Industrial
NEPA National Environmental Policy Act
O&M—Operation and Maintenance
P-SMBP—Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program
PPR—Present Perfected Right
RRA—Reclamation Reform Act