

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

[LLUT922000 L13100000 FI000 257A]

**Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Leases, Utah****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior**ACTION:** Notice of proposed reinstatement of terminated oil and gas lease, Utah.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Title IV of the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act (Pub. L. 97-451), Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation timely filed a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas leases UTU76054 for lands in San Juan County, Utah, and it was accompanied by all required rentals and royalties accruing from September 1, 2008, the date of termination.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kent Hoffman, Deputy State Director, Division of Lands and Minerals at (801) 539-4080, or Becky Hammond, Chief, Branch of Fluid Minerals at (801) 539-4039.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$5 per acre and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$  percent, respectively. The \$500 administrative fee for the leases has been paid and the lessee has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of publishing this notice.

Having met all the requirements for reinstatement of the leases as set out in Section 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the lease, effective September 1, 2008, subject to the original terms and conditions of the leases and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

Dated: February 20, 2009.

**Selma Sierra,**

State Director.

[FR Doc. E9-5076 Filed 3-9-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-P****DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management**

[LLAKA01300-14300000.ER0000; AA-091143]

**Notice of Realty Action: Recreation and Public Purposes Lease, Anchorage, AK***Correction*

In notice document E9-4488 beginning on page 9263 in the issue of Tuesday, March 3, 2009, make the following correction:

On page 9263, the subject should read as it appears above.

[FR Doc. Z9-4488 Filed 3-9-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 1505-01-D****DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Minerals Management Service**

[Docket No. MMS-2008-MRM-0031]

**Agency Information Collection Activities: Submitted for Office of Management and Budget Review; Comment Request****AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of an extension of a currently approved information collection (OMB Control Number 1010-0136).

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) an information collection request (ICR) to renew approval of the paperwork requirements in the regulations under title 30 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) parts 202, 204, and 206. This notice also provides the public a second opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of these regulatory requirements. We changed the title of this ICR to reflect the consolidation of two ICRs relating to Federal oil and gas valuation. The new title of this ICR is "30 CFR Parts 202, 204, and 206, Federal Oil and Gas Valuation." In this extension, we are consolidating the following ICRs, which allow programwide review of Federal oil and gas leases:

- 1010-0136, previously titled "30 CFR Part 202—Royalties, Subpart C—Federal and Indian Oil and Subpart D—Federal Gas; and Part 206—Product Valuation, Subpart C—Federal Oil and Subpart D—Federal Gas;" and
- 1010-0155, previously titled "30 CFR Part 204—Alternatives for Marginal

Properties, Subpart C—Accounting and Auditing Relief."

**DATES:** Submit written comments on or before April 9, 2009.**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments by either FAX (202) 395-7245 or e-mail (*OIRA\_Docket@omb.eop.gov*) directly to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (OMB Control Number 1010-0136).

Please submit copies of your comments to MMS by one of the following methods:

- Electronically go to *http://www.regulations.gov*. In the "Comment or Submission" column, enter "MMS-2008-MRM-0031" to view supporting and related materials for this ICR. Click on "Send a comment or submission" link to submit public comments. Information on using *Regulations.gov*, including instructions for accessing documents, submitting comments, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period, is available through the site's "User Tips" link. All comments submitted will be posted to the docket.

- Mail comments to Armand Southall, Regulatory Specialist, Minerals Management Service, Minerals Revenue Management, P.O. Box 25165, MS 300B2, Denver, Colorado 80225. Please reference ICR 1010-0136 in your comments.

- Hand-carry comments or use an overnight courier service. Our courier address is Building 85, Room A-614, Denver Federal Center, West 6th Ave. and Kipling St., Denver, Colorado 80225. Please reference ICR 1010-0136 in your comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Armand Southall, telephone (303) 231-3221, or e-mail *armand.southall@mms.gov*. You may also contact Armand Southall to obtain copies, at no cost, of (1) the ICR, (2) any associated forms, and (3) the regulations that require the subject collection of information.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* 30 CFR Parts 202, 204, and 206, Federal Oil and Gas Valuation.

*OMB Control Number:* 1010-0136.

*Bureau Form Number:* Form MMS-4393.

*Abstract:* The Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior is responsible for mineral resource development on Federal and Indian lands and the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The Secretary is required by various laws to manage mineral resource production from Federal and Indian lands and the OCS, collect the royalties and other mineral revenues due, and distribute the funds

collected in accordance with applicable laws. Public laws pertaining to mineral leases on Federal and Indian lands are posted on our Web site at [http://www.mrm.mms.gov/Laws\\_R\\_D/PublicLawsAMR.htm](http://www.mrm.mms.gov/Laws_R_D/PublicLawsAMR.htm).

The Secretary also has a trust responsibility to manage Indian lands and seek advice and information from Indian beneficiaries. The MMS performs the minerals revenue management functions and assists the Secretary in carrying out the Department's trust responsibility for Indian lands.

### General Information

When a company or an individual enters into a lease to explore, develop, produce, and dispose of minerals from Federal or Indian lands, that company or individual agrees to pay the lessor a share in an amount or value of production from the leased lands. The lessee is required to report various kinds of information to the lessor relative to the disposition of the leased minerals. Such information is generally available within the records of the lessee or others involved in developing, transporting, processing, purchasing, or selling of such minerals.

We use the information collected in this ICR to ensure that royalty is accurately valued and appropriately paid on oil and gas produced from Federal onshore and offshore leases. Please refer to the chart for all reporting requirements and associated burden hours. All data submitted is subject to subsequent audit and adjustment.

### Federal Oil and Gas Valuation Regulations

The valuation regulations at 30 CFR part 206, subparts C and D, mandate that companies collect and/or submit information used to value their Federal oil and gas, including transportation and processing regulatory allowance limit information. Companies report certain data on Form MMS-2014, Report of Sales and Royalty Remittance (OMB Control Number 1010-0140). The information requested is the minimum necessary to carry out our mission and places the least possible burden on respondents. If MMS does not collect this information, both Federal and state governments may suffer a loss of royalties.

#### *Transportation and Processing Regulatory Allowance Limits*

Lessees may deduct the reasonable, actual costs of transportation and

processing from Federal royalties. Lessees who request approval to exceed the regulatory allowance limits are required to supply information in order to obtain these benefits.

*Regulatory Allowance Limit for Transportation:* Under certain circumstances, lessees are authorized to deduct from royalty payments the reasonable, actual costs of transporting the royalty portion of produced oil and gas from the lease to a processing or sales point not in the immediate lease area. For oil and gas, regulations establish the allowable limit on transportation allowance deductions at 50 percent of the value of the oil or gas.

*Regulatory Allowance Limit for Processing:* When gas is processed for the recovery of gas plant products, lessees may claim a processing allowance. Regulations establish the allowable limit on processing allowance deductions at 66 $\frac{2}{3}$  percent of the value of each gas plant product.

#### *Request To Exceed Regulatory Allowance Limitation, Form MMS-4393*

Lessees may request to exceed regulatory limitations. Upon proper application from the lessee, we may approve an oil or gas transportation allowance in excess of 50 percent or a gas processing allowance in excess of 66 $\frac{2}{3}$  percent on Federal leases. To request permission to exceed a regulatory allowance limit, lessees must submit a letter to MMS explaining why a higher allowance limit is necessary and provide supporting documentation, including a completed Form MMS-4393. On this form, lessees provide the data necessary to identify the properties and time periods for which the lessee is requesting to exceed the regulatory limits. The MMS verifies that these costs actually exceed regulatory allowance limits. Companies report allowances on Form MMS-4393 for both Federal and Indian leases. Burden hours for completion of Form MMS-4393 for Indian leases are included in OMB Control Number 1010-0103.

#### **Accounting and Auditing Relief for Marginal Properties**

In 2004, we amended our regulations to comply with section 7 of the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Simplification and Fairness Act of 1996. The new regulations provide guidance for lessees and designees seeking accounting and auditing relief for qualifying Federal marginal properties. There are two types

of relief: (1) Cumulative royalty reports and payments relief; and (2) other relief. Under 30 CFR 204.202, MMS requires notification from lessees who request to take the cumulative royalty reporting and payment relief option. Under 30 CFR 204.203, MMS requires a relief request from lessees who want to obtain any other type of accounting and auditing relief.

A state may decide in advance if it will allow either or both relief options for each particular year and must notify the MRM Associate Director, in writing of its decision. If a state does not notify MMS in writing, then MMS will deem that the state has decided not to allow either or both relief options. After consulting with the state concerned, we will approve, deny, or modify requests in writing. Under the regulations, both MMS and the state concerned must approve any accounting and auditing relief granted for a marginal property.

### OMB Approval

We are requesting OMB approval to continue to collect this information. Not collecting this information would limit the Secretary's ability to discharge his/her duties and may also result in loss of royalty payments. Proprietary information submitted to MMS under this collection is protected, and no items of a sensitive nature are included in this information collection.

For information collections relating to valuation requirements, responses are mandatory. For the remaining information collections in this ICR, responses are required to obtain benefits: only those lessees who request approval to exceed the regulatory limits on transportation and processing allowances or to obtain the benefits of accounting and auditing relief for marginal properties must supply this information.

*Frequency:* Annually and on occasion.

*Estimated Number and Description of Respondents:* 94 Federal lessees/designees and 4 states.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden:* 21,055 hours.

We have not included in our estimates certain requirements performed in the normal course of business and considered usual and customary. The following chart shows the estimated burden hours by CFR section and paragraph:

RESPONDENTS' ESTIMATED ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS

| Citation 30 CFR 202, 204, and 206 | Reporting and recordkeeping requirement | Hour burden | Average number of annual responses | Annual burden hours |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|

**PART 202—ROYALTIES**  
**Subpart C—Federal and Indian Oil**

§ 202.101 Standards for reporting and paying royalties.

|               |  |  |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| 202.101 ..... | 202.101 Oil volumes are to be reported in barrels of clean oil of 42 standard U.S. gallons (231 cubic inches each) at 60 °F. | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|

**Subpart D—Federal Gas**

§ 202.152 Standards for reporting and paying royalties on gas.

|                          |   |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| 202.152(a) and (b) ..... | 202.152(a)(1) If you are responsible for reporting production or royalties you must:<br>(i) Report gas volumes and British thermal unit (Btu) heating values, if applicable, under the same degree of water saturation;<br>(ii) Report gas volumes in units of 1,000 cubic feet (mcf); and<br>(iii) Report gas volumes and Btu heating value at a standard pressure base of 14.73 pounds per square inch absolute (psia) and a standard temperature base of 60 °F.<br>(b) Residue gas and gas plant product volumes shall be reported as specified in this paragraph. | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |  |  |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|

**PART 204—ALTERNATIVES FOR MARGINAL PROPERTIES**  
**Subpart C—Accounting and Auditing Relief**

§ 204.202 What is the cumulative royalty reports and payments relief option?

|   |   |  |   |    |
|---|---|--|---|----|
| 204.202(b)(1) .....   | 204.202(b) To use the cumulative royalty reports and payments relief option, you must do all of the following:<br>(1) Notify MMS in writing by January 31 of the calendar year for which you begin taking your relief.  | 40   | 1 | 40 |
| 204.202(b)(2) and (b)(3).                                       | 204.202(b)(2) Submit your royalty report and payment * * * by the end of February of the year following the calendar year for which you reported annually * * * If you have an estimated payment on file, you must submit your royalty report and payment by the end of March of the year following the calendar year for which you reported annually; (3) Use the sales month prior to the month that you submit your annual report and payment * * * for the entire previous calendar year's production for which you are paying annually.  | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |   |    |
| 204.202(b)(4), (b)(5), (c), (d)(1), (d)(2), (e)(1), and (e)(2). | 204.202(b) To use the cumulative royalty reports and payments relief option, you must:<br>(4) Report one line of cumulative royalty information on Form MMS-2014 for the calendar year * * * and<br>(5) Report allowances on Form MMS-2014 on the same annual basis as the royalties for your marginal property production.<br>(c) If you do not pay your royalty by the date due in paragraph (b) of this section, you will owe late payment interest * * * from the date your payment was due under this section until the date MMS receives it.<br>(d) If you take relief you are not qualified for, you may be liable for civil penalties.<br>Also you must:<br>(1) Pay MMS late payment interest determined under 30 CFR 218.54;<br>(2) Amend your Form MMS-2014.<br>(e) If you dispose of your ownership interest in a marginal property for which you have taken relief * * * you must:<br>(1) Report and pay royalties for the portion of the calendar year for which you had an ownership interest; and<br>(2) Make the report and payment by the end of the month after you dispose of the ownership interest in the marginal property. If you do not report and pay timely, you will owe interest * * * from the date the payment was due. | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |   |    |

RESPONDENTS' ESTIMATED ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS—Continued

| Citation 30 CFR 202, 204, and 206   | Reporting and recordkeeping requirement  | Hour burden  | Average number of annual responses | Annual burden hours |
|---|--|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| § 204.203 What is the other relief option?  |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 204.203(b), 204.205(a) and (b), and 204.206(a)(3)(i) and (b)(1).  | 204.203(b) You must request approval from MMS * * * before taking relief under this option.  | 200  | 1                                  | 200                 |
| § 204.208 May a State decide that it will or will not allow one or both of the relief options under this subpart? |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 204.208 (c)(1), (d)(1), and (e)   | <p>204.208(c) If a State decides * * * that it will or will not allow one or both of the relief options * * * within 30 days * * * the State must:</p> <p>(1) Notify the Associate Director for Minerals Revenue Management, MMS, in writing, of its intent to allow or not allow one or both of the relief options.</p> <p>(d) If a State decides in advance * * * that it will not allow one or both of the relief options * * * the State must: (1) Notify the Associate Director for Minerals Revenue Management, MMS, in writing, of its intent to allow one or both of the relief options.</p> <p>(e) If a State does not notify MMS * * * the State will be deemed to have decided not to allow either of the relief options.</p> | 40   | 4                                  | 160                 |
| § 204.209 What if a property ceases to qualify for relief obtained under this subpart?                            |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 204.209(b) .....  | 204.209(b) If a property is no longer eligible for relief * * * the relief for the property terminates as of December 31 of that calendar year. You must notify MMS in writing by December 31 that the relief for the property has terminated.   | 6  | 1                                  | 6                   |
| § 204.210 What if a property is approved as part of a nonqualifying agreement?                                    |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 204.210(c) and (d) .....  | <p>204.210(c) * * * the volumes on which you report and pay royalty * * * must be amended to reflect all volumes produced on or allocated to your lease under the nonqualifying agreement as modified by BLM * * * Report and pay royalties for your production using the procedures in § 204.202(b).</p> <p>(d) If you owe additional royalties based on the retroactive agreement approval and do not pay your royalty by the date due in § 204.202(b), you will owe late payment interest determined under 30 CFR 218.54 from the date your payment was due under § 204.202(b)(2) until the date MMS receives it.</p>   | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| § 204.214(b) Is minimum royalty due on a property for which I took relief?  |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 204.214(b)(1) and (b)(2)  | <p>204.214(b) If you pay minimum royalty on production from a marginal property during a calendar year for which you are taking cumulative royalty reports and payment relief, and:</p> <p>(1) The annual payment you owe under this subpart is greater than the minimum royalty you paid, you must pay the difference between the minimum royalty you paid and your annual payment due under this subpart; or,</p> <p>(2) The annual payment you owe under this subpart is less than the minimum royalty you paid, you are not entitled to a credit because you must pay at least the minimum royalty amount on your lease each year.</p>   | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| <b>Accounting and Auditing Relief Subtotal</b>  |  |  | 7                                  | 406                 |
| <b>PART 206—PRODUCT VALUATION<br/>Subpart C—Federal Oil</b>   |  |  |                                    |                     |
| § 206.102 How do I calculate royalty value for oil that I or my affiliate sell(s) under an arm's-length contract? |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.102(e)(1)   | 206.102(e) If you value oil under paragraph (a) of this section: (1) MMS may require you to certify that your or your affiliate's arm's-length contract provisions include all of the consideration the buyer must pay, either directly or indirectly, for the oil.  | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |                                    |                     |

## RESPONDENTS' ESTIMATED ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS—Continued

| Citation 30 CFR 202, 204, and 206  | Reporting and recordkeeping requirement   | Hour burden  | Average number of annual responses | Annual burden hours |
|--|---|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| § 206.103 How do I value oil that is not sold under an arm's-length contract?                          |   |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.103(a)   | 206.103 This section explains how to value oil that you may not value under § 206.102 or that elect under § 206.102(d) to value under this section. First determine whether paragraph (a), (b), or (c) of this section applies to production from your lease, or whether you may apply paragraph (d) or (e) with MMS approval.<br>(a) Production from leases in California or Alaska. Value is the average of the daily mean ANS spot prices published in any MMS-approved publication during the trading month most concurrent with the production month.<br>(1) To calculate the daily mean spot price.<br>(2) Use only the days.<br>(3) You must adjust the value. | 45   | 5                                  | 225                 |
| 206.103(a)(4)  | 206.103(a)(4) After you select an MMS-approved publication, you may not select a different publication more often than once every 2 years.  | 8  | 2                                  | 16                  |
| 206.103(b)(1)  | 206.103(b) Production from leases in the Rocky Mountain Region. * * * (1) If you have an MMS-approved tendering program, you must value oil.  | 400  | 2                                  | 800                 |
| 206.103(b)(1)(ii)  | 206.103(b)(1)(ii) If you do not have an MMS-approved tendering program, you may elect to value your oil under either paragraph (b)(2) or (b)(3) of this section.  | 400  | 2                                  | 800                 |
| 206.103(b)(4)  | 206.103(b)(4) If you demonstrate to MMS's satisfaction that paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(3) of this section result in an unreasonable value for your production as a result of circumstances regarding that production, the MMS Director may establish an alternative valuation method.  | 400  | 2                                  | 800                 |
| 206.103(c)(1)  | 206.103(c) Production from leases not located in California, Alaska or the Rocky Mountain Region. (1) Value is the NYMEX price, plus the roll, adjusted for applicable location and quality differentials and transportation costs under § 206.112.   | 50   | 10                                 | 500                 |
| 206.103(e)(1) and (e)(2).  | 206.103(e) Production delivered to your refinery and the NYMEX price or ANS spot price is an unreasonable value.<br>(1) * * * you may apply to the MMS Director to establish a value representing the market at the refinery if:<br>(2) You must provide adequate documentation and evidence demonstrating the market value at the refinery.  | 330  | 2                                  | 660                 |
| § 206.105 What records must I keep to support my calculations of value under this subpart?             |   |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.105  | 206.105 If you determine the value of your oil under this subpart, you must retain all data relevant to the determination of royalty value.   | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| § 206.107 How do I request a value determination?  |   |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.107(a)   | 206.107(a) You may request a value determination from MMS.  | 880  | 3                                  | 2,640               |
| § 206.109 When may I take a transportation allowance in determining value?                             |   |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.109(c)(2)  | 206.109(c) Limits on transportation allowances. (2) You may ask MMS to approve a transportation allowance in excess of the limitation in paragraph (c)(1) of this section * * * Your application for exception (using Form MMS-4393, Request to Exceed Regulatory Allowance Limitation) must contain all relevant and supporting documentation necessary for MMS to make a determination.   | 8  | 1                                  | 8                   |
| § 206.110 How do I determine a transportation allowance under an arm's-length transportation contract? |   |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.110(a)   | 206.110(a) * * * You must be able to demonstrate that you or your affiliate's contract is at arm's length.  | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |                                    |                     |
| 206.110(d)(3)  | 206.110(d) If your arm's-length transportation contract includes more than one liquid product, and the transportation costs attributable to each product cannot be determined * * * (3) You may propose to MMS a cost allocation method.  | 330  | 2                                  | 660                 |

RESPONDENTS' ESTIMATED ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS—Continued

| Citation 30 CFR 202, 204, and 206   | Reporting and recordkeeping requirement  | Hour burden  | Average number of annual responses | Annual burden hours |
|---|--|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 206.110(e) .....  | 206.110(e) If your arm's-length transportation contract includes both gaseous and liquid products, and the transportation costs attributable to each product cannot be determined from the contract, then you must propose an allocation procedure to MMS.   | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
| 206.110(e)(1) and (e)(2).   | 206.110(e)(1) * * * If MMS rejects your cost allocation, you must amend your Form MMS-2014.<br>(2) You must submit your initial proposal, including all available data, within 3 months after first claiming the allocated deductions on Form MMS-2014.  | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| 206.110(g)(2) .....   | 206.110(g) If your arm's-length sales contract includes a provision reducing the contract price by a transportation factor, * * *  | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
|   | (2) You must obtain MMS approval before claiming a transportation factor in excess of 50 percent of the base price of the product.   |  |                                    |                     |
| § 206.111 How do I determine a transportation allowance if I do not have an arm's-length transportation contract or arm's-length tariff?        |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.111(g) .....  | 206.111(g) To compute depreciation, you may elect to use either * * * After you make an election, you may not change methods without MMS approval.   | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
| 206.111(k)(2) .....   | 206.111(k)(2) You may propose to MMS a cost allocation method on the basis of the values.  | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
| 206.111(l)(1) and (l)(3)  | 206.111(l)(1) Where you transport both gaseous and liquid products through the same transportation system, you must propose a cost allocation procedure to MMS * * * (3) You must submit your initial proposal, including all available data, within 3 months after first claiming the allocated deductions on Form MMS-2014.  | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
| 206.111(l)(2) .....   | 206.111(l)(2) * * * If MMS rejects your cost allocation, you must amend your Form MMS-2104 for the months that you used the rejected method and pay any additional royalty and interest due.   | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| § 206.112 What adjustments and transportation allowances apply when I value oil production from my lease using NYMEX prices or ANS spot prices? |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.112(a)(1)(ii) .....   | 206.112(a)(1)(ii) * * * under an exchange agreement that is not at arm's length, you must obtain approval from MMS for a location and quality differential.  | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
| 206.112(a)(1)(ii) .....   | 206.112(a)(1)(ii) * * * If MMS prescribes a different differential, you must apply * * * You must pay any additional royalties owed * * * plus the late payment interest from the original royalty due date, or you may report a credit.   | 330  | 2                                  | 660                 |
| 206.112(a)(3) and (a)(4).   | 206.112(a)(3) If you transport or exchange at arm's length (or both transport and exchange) at least 20 percent, but not all, of your oil produced from the lease to a market center, determine the adjustment between the lease and the market center for the oil that is not transported or exchanged (or both transported and exchanged) to or through a market center as follows:<br>(4) If you transport or exchange (or both transport and exchange) less than 20 percent of your crude oil produced from the lease between the lease and a market center, you must propose to MMS an adjustment between the lease and the market center for the portion of the oil that you do not transport or exchange (or both transport and exchange) to a market center * * * If MMS prescribes a different adjustment.<br>* * * You must pay any additional royalties owed * * * plus the late payment interest from the original royalty due date, or you may report a credit. | 330  | 4                                  | 1,320               |
| 206.112(b)(3) .....   | 206.112(b)(3) * * * you may propose an alternative differential to MMS * * * If MMS prescribes a different differential * * * You must pay any additional royalties owed * * * plus the late payment interest from the original royalty due date, or you may report a credit.  | 330  | 4                                  | 1,320               |

## RESPONDENTS' ESTIMATED ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS—Continued

| Citation 30 CFR 202, 204, and 206   | Reporting and recordkeeping requirement   | Hour burden  | Average number of annual responses | Annual burden hours |
|---|---|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 206.112(c)(2) .....   | 206.112(c)(2) * * * If quality bank adjustments do not incorporate or provide for adjustments for sulfur content, you may make sulfur adjustments, based on the quality of the representative crude oil at the market center, of 5.0 cents per one-tenth percent difference in sulfur content, unless MMS approves a higher adjustment. | 330  | 2                                  | 660                 |
| § 206.114 What are my reporting requirements under an arm's-length transportation contract?       |   |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.114 .....   | 206.114 You or your affiliate must use a separate entry on Form MMS-2014 to notify MMS of an allowance based on transportation costs you or your affiliate incur.<br>MMS may require you or your affiliate to submit arm's-length transportation contracts, production agreements, operating agreements, and related documents.         | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140.<br>AUDIT PROCESS. See note. |                                    |                     |
| § 206.115 What are my reporting requirements under a non-arm's-length transportation arrangement? |   |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.115(a) .....  | 206.115(a) You or your affiliate must use a separate entry on Form MMS-2014 to notify MMS of an allowance based on transportation costs you or your affiliate incur.  | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140.                             |                                    |                     |
| 206.115(c) .....  | 206.115(c) MMS may require you or your affiliate to submit all data used to calculate the allowance deduction.  | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.   |                                    |                     |

**Subpart D—Federal Gas**

## § 206.152 Valuation standards-unprocessed gas.

|                                   |   |  |   |       |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|-------|
| 206.152(b)(1)(i) and (b)(1)(iii). | 206.152(b)(1)(i) * * * The lessee shall have the burden of demonstrating that its contract is arm's-length (iii) * * * When MMS determines that the value may be unreasonable, MMS will notify the lessee and give the lessee an opportunity to provide written information justifying the lessee's value.  | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |   |       |
| 206.152(b)(2) .....               | 206.152(b)(2) * * * The lessee must request a value determination in accordance with paragraph (g) of this section for gas sold pursuant to a warranty contract;  | 330  | 1 | 330   |
| 206.152(b)(3) .....               | 206.152(b)(3) MMS may require a lessee to certify that its arm's-length contract provisions include all of the consideration to be paid by the buyer, either directly or indirectly, for the gas.   | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |   |       |
| 206.152(e)(1) .....               | 206.152(e)(1) Where the value is determined pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section, the lessee shall retain all data relevant to the determination of royalty value.   | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |   |       |
| 206.152(e)(2) .....               | 206.152(e)(2) Any Federal lessee will make available upon request to the authorized MMS or State representatives, to the Office of the Inspector General of the department of the Interior, or other person authorized to receive such information, arm's-length sales and volume data for like-quality production sold, purchased or otherwise obtained by the lessee from the field or area or from nearby fields or areas. | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |   |       |
| 206.152(e)(3) .....               | 206.152(e)(3) A lessee shall notify MMS if it has determined value pursuant to paragraph (c)(2) or (c)(3) of this section.  | 330  | 2 | 660   |
| 206.152(g) .....                  | 206.152(g) The lessee may request a value determination from MMS * * * The lessee shall submit all available data relevant to its proposal.   | 660  | 3 | 1,980 |

## § 206.153 Valuation standards-processed gas.

|                                   |   |                          |   |     |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|-----|
| 206.153(b)(1)(i) and (b)(1)(iii). | 206.153(b)(1)(i) * * * The lessee shall have the burden of demonstrating that its contract is arm's-length.   | AUDIT PROCESS. See note. |   |     |
| 206.153(b)(2) .....               | (iii) * * * When MMS determines that the value may be unreasonable, MMS will notify the lessee and give the lessee an opportunity to provide written information justifying the lessee's value.<br>206.153(b)(2) * * * The lessee must request a value determination in accordance with paragraph (g) of this section for gas sold pursuant to a warranty contract; | 330                      | 1 | 330 |

RESPONDENTS' ESTIMATED ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS—Continued

| Citation 30 CFR 202, 204, and 206  | Reporting and recordkeeping requirement  | Hour burden  | Average number of annual responses | Annual burden hours |
|--|--|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 206.153(b)(3) .....  | 206.153(b)(3) MMS may require a lessee to certify that its arm's-length contract provisions include all of the consideration to be paid by the buyer, either directly or indirectly, for the residue gas or gas plant product.   | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |                                    |                     |
| 206.153(e)(1) .....  | 206.153(e)(1) Where the value is determined pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section, the lessee shall retain all data relevant to the determination of royalty value.  | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| 206.153(e)(2) .....  | 206.153(e)(2) Any Federal lessee will make available upon request to the authorized MMS or State representatives, to the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of the Interior, or other persons authorized to receive such information, arm's-length sales and volume data for like-quality residue gas and gas plant products sold, purchased or otherwise obtained by the lessee from the same processing plant or from nearby processing plants. | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |                                    |                     |
| 206.153(e)(3) .....  | 206.153(e)(2) A lessee shall notify MMS if it has determined any value pursuant to paragraph (c)(2) or (c)(3) of this section.   | 330  | 2                                  | 660                 |
| 206.153(g) .....   | 206.153(g) The lessee may request a value determination from MMS * * * The lessee shall submit all available data relevant to its proposal.  | 330  | 4                                  | 1,320               |
| § 206.154 Determination of quantities and qualities for computing royalties. |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.154(c)(4) .....  | 206.154(c)(4) * * * A lessee may request MMS approval of other methods for determining the quantity of residue gas and gas plant products allocable to each lease.   | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
| § 206.156 Transportation allowances—general.                                 |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.156(c)(3) .....  | 206.156(c)(3) Upon request of a lessee, MMS may approve a transportation allowance deduction in excess of the limitation prescribed by paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section * * * An application for exception (using Form MMS-4393, Request to Exceed Regulatory Allowance Limitation) shall contain all relevant and supporting documentation necessary for MMS to make a determination.   | 8  | 3                                  | 24                  |
| § 206.157 Determination of transportation allowances.                        |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.157(a)(1)(i) .....   | 206.157(a) Arm's-length transportation contracts. (1)(i) * * * The lessee shall have the burden of demonstrating that its contract is arm's-length.<br>The lessee must claim a transportation allowance by reporting it on a separate line entry on the Form MMS-2014.   | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |                                    |                     |
| 206.157(a)(1)(iii) .....   | 206.157(a)(1)(iii) * * * When MMS determines that the value of the transportation may be unreasonable, MMS will notify the lessee and give the lessee an opportunity to provide written information justifying the lessee's transportation costs   | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| 206.157(a)(2)(ii) .....  | 206.157(a)(2)(ii) * * * the lessee may propose to MMS a cost allocation method on the basis of the values of the products transported.   | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
| 206.157(a)(3) .....  | 206.157(a)(3) If an arm's-length transportation contract includes both gaseous and liquid products and the transportation costs attributable to each cannot be determined from the contract, the lessee shall propose an allocation procedure to MMS * * * The lessee shall submit all relevant data to support its proposal.  | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
| 206.157(a)(5) .....  | 206.157(a)(5) * * * The transportation factor may not exceed 50 percent of the base price of the product without MMS approval.   | 100  | 1                                  | 100                 |
| 206.157(b)(1) .....  | 206.157(b) Non-arm's-length or no contract. (1) The lessee must claim a transportation allowance by reporting it on a separate line entry on the Form MMS-2014.  | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| 206.157(b)(2)(iv) and (b)(2)(iv)(A).   | 206.157(b)(2)(iv) After a lessee has elected to use either method for a transportation system, the lessee may not later elect to change to the other alternative without approval of the MMS. (A) After an election is made, the lessee may not change methods without MMS approval.   | 100  | 1                                  | 100                 |



## RESPONDENTS' ESTIMATED ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS—Continued

| Citation 30 CFR 202, 204, and 206                 | Reporting and recordkeeping requirement  | Hour burden  | Average number of annual responses | Annual burden hours |
|---|--|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 206.157(b)(3)(i) .....                            | 206.157(b)(3)(i) * * * Except as provided in this paragraph, the lessee may not take an allowance for transporting a product which is not royalty bearing without MMS approval.  | 100  | 1                                  | 100                 |
| 206.157(b)(3)(ii) .....                           | 206.157(b)(3)(ii) * * * the lessee may propose to the MMS a cost allocation method on the basis of the values of the products transported.   | 100  | 1                                  | 100                 |
| 206.157(b)(4) .....                               | 206.157(b)(4) Where both gaseous and liquid products are transported through the same transportation system, the lessee shall propose a cost allocation procedure to MMS. * * * The lessee shall submit all relevant data to support its proposal.   | 100  | 1                                  | 100                 |
| 206.157(b)(5) .....                               | 206.157(b)(5) You may apply for an exception from the requirement to compute actual costs under paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(4) of this section.  | 100  | 1                                  | 100                 |
| 206.157(c)(1)(i) .....                            | 206.157(c) Reporting Requirements. (1) Arm's-length contracts. (i) You must use a separate entry on Form MMS-2014 to notify MMS of a transportation allowance.   | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140.                                 |                                    |                     |
| 206.157(c)(1)(ii) .....                           | 206.157(c)(1)(ii) The MMS may require you to submit arm's-length transportation contracts, production agreements, operating agreements, and related documents.   | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.   |                                    |                     |
| 206.157(c)(2)(i) .....                            | 206.157(c)(2) Non-arm's-length or no contract. (i) You must use a separate entry on Form MMS-2014 to notify MMS of a transportation allowance.   | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140.                                 |                                    |                     |
| 206.157(c)(2)(iii) .....                          | 206.157(c)(2)(iii) The MMS may require you to submit all data used to calculate the allowance deduction.   | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.   |                                    |                     |
| 206.157(e)(2), (e)(3), and (f)(1).                | 206.157(e) Adjustments. (2) For lessees transporting production from onshore Federal leases, the lessee must submit a corrected Form MMS-2014 to reflect actual costs, together with any payment, in accordance with instructions provided by MMS.<br><br>(3) For lessees transporting gas production from leases on the OCS, if the lessee's estimated transportation allowance exceeds the allowance based on actual costs, the lessee must submit a corrected Form MMS-2014 to reflect actual costs, together with its payments, in accordance with instructions provided by MMS.<br>(f) Allowable costs in determining transportation allowances. * * *<br>(1) Firm demand charges paid to pipelines * * * if you receive a payment or credit from the pipeline for penalty refunds, rate case refunds, or other reasons, you must reduce the firm demand charge claimed on the Form MMS-2014 by the amount of that payment. You must modify Form MMS-2014 by the amount received or credited for the affected reporting period and pay any resulting royalty and late payment interest due. | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140.                                 |                                    |                     |
| § 206.158 Processing allowances-general.          |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.158(c)(3) .....                               | 206.158(c)(3) Upon request of a lessee, MMS may approve a processing allowance in excess of the limitation prescribed by paragraph (c)(2) of this section * * * An application for exception (using Form MMS-4393, Request to Exceed Regulatory Allowance Limitation) shall contain all relevant and supporting documentation for MMS to make a determination. * * *   | 8  | 12                                 | 96                  |
| 206.158(d)(2)(i) .....                            | 206.158(d)(2)(i) If the lessee incurs extraordinary costs for processing gas production from a gas production operation, it may apply to MMS for an allowance for those costs.   | 40   | 2                                  | 80                  |
| 206.158(d)(2)(ii) .....                           | 206.158(d)(2)(ii) * * * to retain the authority to deduct the allowance the lessee must report the deduction to MMS in a form and manner prescribed by MMS.  | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140.                                 |                                    |                     |
| § 206.159 Determination of processing allowances. |  |  |                                    |                     |
| 206.159(a)(1)(i) .....                            | 206.159(a) Arm's-length processing contracts.(1)(i) * * * The lessee shall have the burden of demonstrating that its contract is arm's-length.<br><br>The lessee must claim a processing allowance by reporting it on a separate line entry on the Form MMS-2014.  | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.<br><br>Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |

RESPONDENTS' ESTIMATED ANNUAL BURDEN HOURS—Continued

| Citation 30 CFR 202, 204, and 206    | Reporting and recordkeeping requirement  | Hour burden  | Average number of annual responses | Annual burden hours |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 206.159(a)(1)(iii) .....             | 206.159(a)(1)(iii) * * * When MMS determines that the value of the processing may be unreasonable, MMS will notify the lessee and give the lessee an opportunity to provide written information justifying the lessee's processing costs.  | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |                                    |                     |
| 206.159(a)(3) .....                  | 206.159(a)(3) If an arm's-length processing contract includes more than one gas plant product and the processing costs attributable to each product cannot be determined from the contract, the lessee shall propose an allocation procedure to MMS. * * * The lessee shall submit all relevant data to support its proposal.  | 330  | 1                                  | 330                 |
| 206.159(b)(1) .....                  | 206.159(b) Non-arm's-length or no contract. (1) * * * The lessee must claim a processing allowance by reflecting it as a separate line entry on the Form MMS-2014.   | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| 206.159(b)(2)(iv) and (b)(2)(iv)(A). | 206.159(b)(2)(iv) * * * When a lessee has elected to use either method for a processing plant, the lessee may not later elect to change to the alternative without approval of the MMS.(A) * * * After an election is made, the lessee may not change methods without MMS approval.  | 100  | 1                                  | 100                 |
| 206.159(b)(4) .....                  | 206.159(b)(4) A lessee may apply to MMS for an exception from the requirements that it compute actual costs in accordance with paragraphs (b)(1) through (b)(3) of this section.   | 100  | 1                                  | 100                 |
| 206.159(c)(1)(i) .....               | 206.159(c) Reporting requirements-(1) Arm's-length contracts. (i) The lessee must notify MMS of an allowance based on incurred costs by using a separate line entry on the Form MMS-2014.  | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| 206.159(c)(1)(ii) .....              | 206.159(c)(1)(ii) The MMS may require that a lessee submit arm's-length processing contracts and related documents.  | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |                                    |                     |
| 206.159(c)(2)(i) .....               | 206.159(c)(2) Non-arm's-length or no contract.(i) The lessee must notify MMS of an allowance based on incurred costs by using a separate line entry on the Form MMS-2014.  | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| 206.159(c)(2)(iii) .....             | 206.159(c)(2)(iii) Upon request by MMS, the lessee shall submit all data used to prepare the allowance deduction.  | AUDIT PROCESS. See note.                           |                                    |                     |
| 206.159(e)(2) and (e)(3).            | 206.159(e) Adjustments.<br><br>(2) For lessees processing production from onshore Federal leases, the lessee must submit a corrected Form MMS-2014 to reflect actual costs, together with any payment, in accordance with instructions provided by MMS.(3) For lessees processing gas production from leases on the OCS, if the lessee's estimated processing allowance exceeds the allowance based on actual costs, the lessee must submit a corrected Form MMS-2014 to reflect actual costs, together with its payment, in accordance with instructions provided by MMS. | Burden covered under OMB Control Number 1010-0140. |                                    |                     |
| Oil and Gas Valuation Subtotal ..... |  |  | 91                                 | 20,649              |
| TOTAL .....                          |  |  | 98                                 | 21,055              |

Note: AUDIT PROCESS—The Office of Regulatory Affairs determined that the audit process is exempt from the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 because MMS staff asks non-standard questions to resolve exceptions.

*Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-hour" Cost Burden:* We have identified no "non-hour" cost burden associated with the collection of information.

*Public Disclosure Statement:* The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) 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.

*Comments:* Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA requires each agency to \* \* \*

provide 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** \* \* \* 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, we published a notice in the **Federal Register** on August 15, 2008 (73 FR 47969), announcing that we would submit this ICR to OMB for approval. The notice provided the required 60-day comment period. We

received no comments in response to the notice.

If you wish to comment in response to this notice, you may send your comments 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 April 9, 2009.

**Public Comment Policy:** We will post all comments in response to this notice at [http://www.mrm.mms.gov/Laws\\_R\\_D/FRNotices/FRInfColl.htm](http://www.mrm.mms.gov/Laws_R_D/FRNotices/FRInfColl.htm). We also will post all comments, including names and addresses of respondents, at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public view your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer:** Arlene Bajusz (202) 208-7744.

Dated: March 4, 2009.

**Gregory J. Gould,**

*Associate Director for Minerals Revenue Management.*

[FR Doc. E9-5077 Filed 3-9-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

#### Notice of Proposed Information Collection for 1029-0061

**AGENCY:** Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing its intention to request approval to continue the collection of information under 30 CFR Part 795—Permanent Regulatory Program—Small Operator Assistance Program (SOAP). This information collection activity was previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and assigned clearance number 1029-0061.

**DATES:** Comments on the proposed information collection activity must be

received by May 11, 2009, to be assured of consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be mailed to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave., NW., Room 202—SIB, Washington, DC 20240. Comments may also be submitted electronically to [jtrelease@osmre.gov](mailto:jtrelease@osmre.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To receive a copy of the information collection request contact John Trelease, at (202) 208-2783 or at the e-mail address listed above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** OMB regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities [see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)]. This notice identifies an information collection that OSM will be submitting to OMB for renewed approval. This collection is contained in 30 CFR Part 795—Permanent Regulatory Program Small Operator Assistance Program. OSM will request a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

**Comments are invited on:** (1) The need for the collection of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; (2) the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, such as use of automated means of collection of the information. A summary of the public comments will accompany OSM's submission of the information collection request to OMB.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

This notice provides the public with 60 days in which to comment on the following information collection activity:

**Title:** 30 CFR Part 795—Permanent Regulatory Program—Small Operator Assistance Program.

**OMB Control Number:** 1029-0061.

**SUMMARY:** This information collection requirement is needed to provide assistance to qualified small mine

operators under section 507(c) of Public Law 95-87. The information requested will provide the regulatory authority with data to determine the eligibility of the applicant and the capability and expertise of laboratories to perform required tasks.

**Bureau Form Number:** FS-6.

**Description of Respondents:** Small operators, laboratories, and State regulatory authorities.

**Frequency of Collection:** Once per application.

**Total Annual Responses:** 4.

**Total Annual Burden Hours:** 93 hours.

Dated: March 3, 2009.

**John R. Craynon,**

*Chief, Division of Regulatory Support.*

[FR Doc. E9-4939 Filed 3-9-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-05-M**

## INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

### United States Section; Notice of Availability of a Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Improvements to the Rio Grande Rectification Project in El Paso and Hudspeth Counties, TX

**AGENCY:** United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico (USIBWC).

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability of Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality Final Regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508), and the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission's (USIBWC) Operational Procedures for Implementing Section 102 of NEPA, published in the **Federal Register** September 2, 1981, (46 FR 44083); the USIBWC hereby gives notice of availability of the Final Environmental Assessment and FONSI for Improvements to the Rio Grande Rectification Project (RGRP) located in El Paso and Hudspeth Counties, Texas are available.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lisa Santana, Environmental Protection Specialist, Environmental Management Division, United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission; 4171 N. Mesa, C-100; El Paso, Texas 79902. **Telephone:** (915)