

Bureau of Land Management, Interior

§ 3170.6

value of what is being measured. Uncertainty is determined at a 95 percent confidence level for the purposes of this part.

Unit means the land within a unit area as defined in 43 CFR 3180.0-5.

Unit PA means the unit participating area, if one is in effect, the exploratory unit if there is no associated participating area, or an enhanced recovery unit.

Variance means an approved alternative to a provision or standard of a regulation, Onshore Oil and Gas Order, or NTL.

(b) As used in this part, the following additional acronyms apply:

API means American Petroleum Institute.

BLM means the Bureau of Land Management.

Btu means British thermal unit.

CMS means Coriolis Measurement System.

LACT means lease automatic custody transfer.

OGOR means Oil and Gas Operations Report (Form ONRR-4054 or any successor report).

ONRR means the Office of Natural Resources Revenue, U.S. Department of the Interior, and includes any successor agency.

S&W means sediment and water.

WIS means Well Information System or any successor electronic filing system.

§ 3170.4 Prohibitions against by-pass and tampering.

(a) All by-passes are prohibited.

(b) Tampering with any measurement device, component of a measurement device, or measurement process is prohibited.

(c) Any by-pass or tampering with a measurement device, component of a measurement device, or measurement process may, together with any other remedies provided by law, result in an assessment of civil penalties for knowingly or willfully:

(1) Taking, removing, transporting, using, or diverting oil or gas from a lease site without valid legal authority under 30 U.S.C. 1719(d)(2) and 43 CFR 3163.2(f)(2); or

(2) Preparing, maintaining, or submitting false, inaccurate, or mis-

leading reports, records, or information under 30 U.S.C. 1719(d)(1) and 43 CFR 3163.2(f)(1).

§ 3170.5 [Reserved]

§ 3170.6 Variances.

(a) Any party subject to a requirement of a regulation in this part may request a variance from that requirement.

(1) A request for a variance must include the following:

(i) Identification of the specific requirement from which the variance is requested;

(ii) Identification of the length of time for which the variance is requested, if applicable;

(iii) An explanation of the need for the variance;

(iv) A detailed description of the proposed alternative means of compliance;

(v) A showing that the proposed alternative means of compliance will produce a result that meets or exceeds the objectives of the applicable requirement for which the variance is requested; and

(vi) The FMP number(s) for which the variance is requested, if applicable.

(2) A request for a variance must be submitted as a separate document from any plans or applications. A request for a variance that is submitted as part of a master development plan, application for permit to drill, right-of-way application, or application for approval of other types of operations, rather than submitted separately, will not be considered. Approval of a plan or application that contains a request for a variance does not constitute approval of the variance. A separate request for a variance may be submitted simultaneously with a plan or application. For plans or applications that are contingent upon the approval of the variance request, the BLM encourages the simultaneous submission of the variance request and the plan or application.

(3) The party requesting the variance must file the request and any supporting documents using WIS. If electronic filing is not possible or practical, the operator may submit a request for variance on the Form 3160-5, Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells