

[NM-952-06-1420-00]**Notice of Filing of Plat of Survey; New Mexico****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice.**SUMMARY:** The plats of survey described below will be officially filed in the New Mexico State Office, Bureau of Land Management, Santa Fe, New Mexico, on August 10, 1996.

New Mexico Principal Meridian, New Mexico:

T. 18 N., R. 17 W., for Group 844 NM. T. 26 N., 14 W., T. 28 N., R. 14 W., T. 28 N., R. 15 W., T. 27 N., R. 17 W., T. 28 N., R. 17 W., T. 27 N., R. 16 W., and T. 28 N., R. 16 W., for Group 870 NM. T. 21 N., R. 19 W., T. 17 N., R. 20 W., and T. 21 N., R. 18 W., for Group 871 NM. T. 23 N., R. 10 E., for Group 925 NM, and supplemental plat for T. 23 N., R. 10 E.

A person or party who wishes to protest against any of these surveys must file a written protest with the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, stating that they wish to protest.

A statement of reasons for a protest may be filed with the notice of protest to the State Director, or the statement of reasons must be filed with the State Director within thirty (30) days after the protest is filed.

The above-listed plats represent dependent resurveys, surveys, and subdivisions.

These plats will be in the New Mexico State Office, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 27115, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115. Copies may be obtained from this office upon payment of \$1.10 per sheet.

Dated: July 9, 1996.

Kelley Williamson, Jr.,

Acting Chief Cadastral Surveyor For New Mexico.

[FR Doc. 96-18256 Filed 7-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-FB-P

Minerals Management Service**Safety and Environmental Management Program (SEMP) on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS)****AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.**ACTION:** Notice.**SUMMARY:** The MMS has postponed its decision regarding the mandatory or voluntary adoption of the SEMF by OCS lessees. The MMS does not have sufficient information to determine whether the voluntary adoption of SEMF currently achieves the regulatory

goals of the MMS. We will continue assessing the oil and gas industry's progress in implementing SEMF and will make a determination on this program in mid-1997.

DATES: Comments may be submitted at any time.**ADDRESSES:** We welcome your comments on MMS' SEMF concept, the American Petroleum Institute's Recommended Practice 75, OCS safety and environmental protection issues in general, implementation strategies, and related matters. Send comments to Henry Bartholomew; Deputy Associate Director for Operations and Safety Management; Minerals Management Service; Mail Stop 4600; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 22070-4817.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeff Wiese, SEMF Manager; Mail Stop 4800; Minerals Management Service; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 22070-4817, telephone (703) 787-1591.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****What Is SEMF?**

The SEMF is a safety systems management model designed around offshore oil and gas exploration and development activities. This concept is currently embodied in a publication of the American Petroleum Institute (API) known as Recommended Practice 75 (RP75). This document is available from the API: they can be reached by phone at (202) 682-8375.

How Did We Get to This Point?

The MMS introduced its SEMF concept in the Federal Register on July 2, 1991 (56 FR 30400). In response, OCS operators requested that they be given an opportunity to further develop SEMF and a chance to demonstrate that they could voluntarily adopt it. The MMS joined with a broad-based industry committee to refine the SEMF concept under the aegis of the API. In May 1993, the API published RP75 as its response to SEMF. On June 30, 1994, the MMS published a notice in the Federal Register (59 FR 33779) in which it said that RP75 generally captured the agency's perception of what a SEMF should contain. At that time, the MMS committed to a 2-year moratorium on regulatory activity related to SEMF during which time it would closely monitor the voluntary adoption of RP75 by OCS operators. The observation period officially expires this summer.

Why Is the MMS Promoting SEMF?

The MMS and its predecessors have developed a sound regulatory program to protect the public's interests in the exploration and development of OCS oil

and gas over the course of more than a quarter century. This program is based, in large measure, on standards and recommended practices developed in association with OCS stakeholders that delimit how a "safe and prudent" operator would conduct its business. This regulatory program has historically focused on hardware and engineering solutions. It has been, as well, fairly prescriptive.

The SEMF concept was created to address the role of human and organizational error to accidents. By some estimates, human and organizational factors lie at the root cause of up to eighty percent of all accidents.

Through SEMF, the MMS is seeking alternative ways to enhance current efforts to protect people and the environment during oil and gas exploration and production activities taking place on the U.S. OCS. The MMS undertook this initiative following two separate, but related, studies which indicated that OCS operators were led by the traditional, prescriptive regulatory approach of the MMS to focus more on compliance with existing rules than in systematically identifying and mitigating all risks posed by their operations. Implementation of SEMF squarely places the responsibility for protection of people, facilities, and the environment on the shoulders of OCS operators.

How Well Is SEMF Being Implemented?

To gauge how well OCS operators were implementing SEMF, as well as to identify areas in which the agency could assist them in this endeavor, the MMS joined with the API, the Independent Petroleum Association of America, the Offshore Operator's Committee, and the National Ocean Industries Association to conduct an annual series of surveys. The baseline implementation survey was conducted in January 1995 and a follow-up survey was performed in January 1996. About 95 percent of all OCS operators representing over 99 percent of total OCS oil and gas production (over 3.5 million barrels of oil equivalent per day) responded to this last survey.

Collectively, these surveys have shown that OCS operators—as a whole—are well on their way to implementing SEMF plans that they have been developing during the past 2 years. If progress similar to this is maintained, the MMS expects that many of these companies' SEMF plans will be fully implemented in the field within the next 1-2 years.

Has the MMS Fully Evaluated the Voluntary Adoption Approach?

No. Because the MMS strongly believes that the real value of SEMP will be derived from field-level implementation of SEMP plans, we believe it will be another year before we have enough evidence to ascertain whether this regulatory approach will be a success. We have every reason to believe it will be if OCS operators continue to develop and implement their SEMP plans with due diligence.

What's Next?

The MMS will defer judgment on how successful voluntary adoption of RP75 has been for 1 year. We have, however, identified a few goals that we can pursue collectively with OCS operators during this time:

1. Work to broaden voluntary implementation to the few remaining holdouts;
2. Accelerate, where feasible, field-level implementation of SEMP plans;
3. Continue to promote greater understanding of SEMP through cooperative efforts such as the joint workshops held during 1995;
4. Begin to develop reliable, commonly-defined measures of performance; and,
5. Further explore regulatory reform for companies that conscientiously develop, implement, and undertake to improve SEMP plans.

Also during this time, the MMS will continue its efforts to independently assess implementation of SEMP by meeting with OCS operators on a voluntary basis to discuss their SEMP plans and by talking to field-level personnel during routine inspections we conduct of their offshore facilities.

(Authority: U.S.C. 1334)

Dated: June 26, 1996.

Carolita U. Kallaur,
Acting Director, Minerals Management Service.

[FR Doc. 96-18267 Filed 7-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

National Park Service

General Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement Rock Creek Park, D.C.; Notice of Intent

In accordance with section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service (NPS) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the impacts of alternative management strategies for the General Management Plan (GMP) for Rock Creek Park, Washington, D.C.

The GMP/EIS will evaluate a range of alternatives which address cultural and natural resources protection, socioeconomic concerns, traffic circulation, and visitor use. Studies will also be done on transportation issues and the management of the park as a national scenic byway.

Public involvement will be a key component in the preparation of the general management plan and environmental impact statement.

The NPS will be holding a public scoping meeting on July 24, 7-9 p.m. at the National Zoo where you will have an opportunity to present your ideas, questions, and concerns directly to the planning team. The meeting will be held in the auditorium of the visitor center (formerly the Education Building). Enter the Zoo at the Connecticut Avenue entrance and park in Lot A (parking is free).

The purpose of these meetings is to determine the content that should be addressed in the GMP/EIS. Individuals unable to attend the scoping meetings may request information from the Superintendent of Rock Creek Park at the address listed below.

You can also get the latest information on the general management plan by being on our mailing list. Please call the GMP Info Line (202-282-1008) for a recorded message and, if desired, to leave your comments; or by checking our homepage on the Internet at the following address: <http://www.nps.gov/rocr/gmpnewsletter1>.

The draft GMP/EIS are expected to be completed and available for public review by summer, 1997. After public and interagency review of the draft document, comments will be considered and a final EIS will be prepared for release by winter, 1998, which will be followed by a record-of-decision. The responsible official is Robert G. Stanton, Field Director, National Capital Area, NPS. Written comments should be submitted to the Superintendent of Rock Creek Park, 3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW, Washington, DC 20008-1207.

Dated: July 12, 1996.

Richard S. Powers,

Acting Field Director, National Capital Area.

[FR Doc. 96-18226 Filed 7-17-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-M

Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore Advisory Commission; Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act that a meeting of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point

Reyes National Seashore Advisory Commission will be held at 7:30 p.m. (PST) on Wednesday, August 14, 1996 at GGNRA Park Headquarters, Building 201, Fort Mason, Bay and Franklin Streets, San Francisco, California to hear presentations on issues related to management of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Advisory Commission was established by Public law 92-589 to provide for the free exchange of ideas between the National Park Service and the public and to facilitate the solicitation of advice or other counsel from members of the public on problems pertinent to the National Park Service systems in Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo Counties.

Members of the Commission are as follows:

Mr. Richard Bartke, Chairman
Ms. Naomi T. Gray
Mr. Michael Alexander
Ms. Lennie Roberts
Ms. Sonia Bolaños
Mr. Redmond Kernan
Mr. Merritt Robinson
Mr. John J. Spring
Mr. Joseph Williams
Ms. Amy Meyer, Vice Chair
Dr. Howard Cogswell
Mr. Jerry Friedman
Ms. Yvonne Lee
Mr. Trent Orr
Ms. Jacqueline Young
Mr. R.H. Sciaroni
Dr. Edgar Wayburn
Mr. Mel Lane

The main agenda item at this meeting will be possible Advisory Commission action on the Environmental Assessment for Presidio Golf Course Facilities. A presentation the draft environmental assessment on the proposed Presidio Golf Clubhouse and Maintenance Facility was made before the Advisory Commission at the May 15, 1996 Advisory Commission meeting, and public comments were taken at the June 19, 1996 Advisory Commission meeting. The 30-day comment period on this assessment ended on June 21, 1996.

Also on the agenda will be a presentation and Commission discussion on plans for Marine Learning Center at Pier 1 at Fort Mason Center and a presentation on the activities and operations of the GGNRA Special Use Permit office.

The meeting will also contain reports of committees and ad hoc committees, a Presidio General Manager's Report, and a GGNRA Superintendent's Report.

Specific final agendas for these meetings will be made available to the public at least 15 days prior to each