

- Emissions from OCS activities are not significantly affecting the air quality of any State adjacent to the OCS facilities/operations;

- Discharge or disposal of drill cuttings, sand, and other well solids, including those containing naturally occurring radioactive materials, are properly handled for the protection of OCS workers and the environment; and
- Facilities are inspected daily for the prevention of pollution and problems observed have been corrected.

We will protect proprietary information submitted according to the Freedom of Information Act; 30 CFR 250.118, "Data and information to be made available to the public"; and 30 CFR Part 252, "OCS Oil and Gas Information Program." No items of a sensitive nature are collected. Responses are mandatory.

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: Approximately 130 Federal OCS sulphur or oil and gas lessees.

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

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: The currently approved annual hour burden for this collection is 149,510 hours, which averages 1,150 hours per respondent.

This burden includes a data collection effort for respondents to monitor emissions air quality and submit monthly reports for a 1-year study of selected sites in the Breton National Wildlife Refuge/Wilderness Area (BWA) under §§ 250.303(k) and 250.304(g). OMB previously approved the information collection burden for this, however, the project has been on hold. We have now scheduled the effort to begin on January 1, 2000, as announced in the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region's Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) No. 99-G14.

In addition, we will be requesting an increase in the annual burden for a 1-year data collection effort to monitor ozone and regional haze air quality of facilities in the Gulf of Mexico west of 87° 30' West longitude also beginning January 1, 2000. As announced in NTL No. 99-G15, monitoring will be monthly, with an annual report due the following March in 2001. We estimate 285 additional annual burden hours per respondent for this data collection effort.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost" Burden: OMB previously approved the burden on lessees and operators of each lease within 100 kilometers of the BWA to collect and report meteorological data under §§ 250.303(l) and 250.304(h),

although this collection effort has also been on hold. NTL No. 99-G03 announced the start of this project on January 1, 2000. The Offshore Operators Committee (OOC) has agreed to undertake this project. The OOC estimates this one-time data collection effort will cost approximately \$750,000.00, which will be expensed to the affected OCS lessees.

Comments: We will summarize written responses to this notice and address them in our submission for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. As a result of your comments and our consultations with a representative sample of respondents, we will make any necessary adjustments to the burden in our submission to OMB. In calculating the burden, we assumed that respondents perform many of the requirements and maintain records in the normal course of their activities. We consider these to be usual and customary and took that into account in estimating the burden.

(1) We specifically solicit your comments on the following questions:

(a) Is the proposed collection of information necessary for us to properly perform our functions, and will it be useful?

(b) Are the estimates of the burden hours of the proposed collection reasonable?

(c) Do you have any suggestions that would enhance the quality, clarity, or usefulness of the information to be collected?

(d) Is there a way to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology?

(2) In addition, the PRA requires agencies to estimate the total annual reporting and recordkeeping "cost" burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information. We need to know if you have costs associated with the collection of this information for either total capital and startup cost components or annual operation, maintenance, and purchase of service components. Your estimates should consider the costs to generate, maintain, and disclose or provide the information. You should describe the methods you use to estimate major cost factors, including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, discount rate(s), and the period over which you incur costs. Capital and startup costs include, among other items, computers and software you purchase to prepare for

collecting information; monitoring, sampling, drilling, and testing equipment; and record storage facilities. Generally, your estimates should not include equipment or services purchased: (i) Before October 1, 1995; (ii) to comply with requirements not associated with the information collection; (iii) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the Government; or (iv) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.

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

Dated: August 6, 1999.

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

[FR Doc. 99-20798 Filed 8-11-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of a currently approved information collection (OMB Control Number 1010-0059).

SUMMARY: As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, MMS invites the public and other Federal agencies to comment on a proposal to extend the currently approved collection of information discussed below. The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (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 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

DATES: Submit written comments by October 12, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Mail or hand carry comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Attention: Rules Processing Team; Mail Stop 4024; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 30 CFR 250, Subpart H, Oil and Gas Production Safety Systems (1010-0059).

Abstract: The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*, gives the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) the responsibility to preserve, protect, and develop oil and gas resources in the OCS. This must be done in a manner that is consistent with the need to make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible; balance orderly energy resource development with protection of the human, marine, and coastal environments; ensure the public a fair and equitable return on the resources of the OCS; and preserve and maintain free enterprise competition. The OCS Lands Act at 43 U.S.C. 1332(6) states that "operations in the [O]uter Continental Shelf should be conducted in a safe manner by well-trained personnel using technology, precautions, and techniques sufficient to prevent or minimize the likelihood of blowouts, loss of well control, fires, spillages, physical obstruction to other users of the waters or subsoil and seabed, or other occurrences which may cause damage to the environment or to property, or endanger life or health."

Regulations at 30 CFR 250, subpart H, "Oil and Gas Production Safety Systems" implement these statutory requirements. We use the information collected under subpart H to evaluate equipment and/or procedures that lessees propose to use during production operations. Information is also used to verify the no-flow condition of wells to continue the waiver of requirements to install valves capable of preventing backflow. The MMS inspectors review the records maintained to verify compliance with testing and minimum safety requirements.

In addition, in the Pacific OCS Region, MMS reviews copies of the Emergency Action Plans that lessees and operators submit to their local air quality agencies to ensure that abatement procedures do not jeopardize safe platform operations.

We will protect proprietary information submitted according to the Freedom of Information Act; 30 CFR 250.118, "Data and information to be made available to the public"; and 30 CFR Part 252, "OCS Oil and Gas Information Program." No items of a sensitive nature are collected. Responses are mandatory.

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: Approximately 130 Federal OCS sulphur or oil and gas lessees.

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

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: The currently approved annual hour burden for this collection is 2,900 hours, which averages 22.5 hours per respondent.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost" Burden: None identified.

Comments: We will summarize written responses to this notice and address them in our submission for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. As a result of your comments and our consultations with a representative sample of respondents, we will make any necessary adjustments to the burden in our submission to OMB. In calculating the burden, we assumed that respondents perform many of the requirements and maintain records in the normal course of their activities. We consider these to be usual and customary and took that into account in estimating the burden.

(1) We specifically solicit your comments on the following questions:

(a) Is the proposed collection of information necessary for us to properly perform our functions, and will it be useful?

(b) Are the estimates of the burden hours of the proposed collection reasonable?

(c) Do you have any suggestions that would enhance the quality, clarity, or usefulness of the information to be collected?

(d) Is there a way to minimize the information collection burden on respondents, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology?

(2) In addition, the PRA requires agencies to estimate the total annual reporting and recordkeeping "non-hour cost" burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information. We need to know if you have costs associated with the collection of this information for either total capital and startup cost components or annual operation, maintenance, and purchase of service components. Your estimates should consider the costs to generate, maintain, and disclose or provide the information. You should describe the methods you use to estimate major cost factors, including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, discount rate(s), and the period over which you incur costs. Capital and startup costs include, among other items, computers and software you purchase to prepare for

collecting information; monitoring, sampling, drilling, and testing equipment; and record storage facilities. Generally, your estimates should not include equipment or services purchased: (i) Before October 1, 1995; (ii) to comply with requirements not associated with the information collection; (iii) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the Government; or (iv) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.

MMS Information Collection

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

Dated: August 4, 1999.

E.P. Danenberger,

Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.
[FR Doc. 99-20799 Filed 8-11-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Clean Water Act

In accordance with the policy of the Department of Justice, 28 U.S.C. 50.7, notice is hereby given that a proposed consent decree in *United States et al., v. County of Muskegon, Michigan, et al.*, Civ. No. 1-97-CV-486, was lodged with the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan, on July 30, 1999. The action was brought by the United States against the County of Muskegon, Michigan ("Muskegon") under Section 309(b) and (d) of the Clean Water Act ("the Act"), 33 U.S.C. 1319(b) and (d), for injunctive relief and assessment of civil penalties. The Complaint alleged violations by Muskegon of Section 301 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. 1311, and the terms and conditions of its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") Permits issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Act, 33 U.S.C. 1342, and for violations of two administrative orders issued to Muskegon by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to Section 309(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. 1319(a), in connection with two Publicly Owned Treatment Works owned and operated by Muskegon.

Under the proposed consent decree, Muskegon will pay \$160,000 in civil penalties for past violations. In addition, Muskegon will implement certain remedial actions to effect compliance with its NPDES permit requirements including: (1) measures to comply with the effluent discharge limits for fecal coliform and total suspended solids from its Metro POTW; and (2) measures