

DATE: Comments and requests for a public meeting must be received by February 10, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments and requests should be sent to the BLM Wyoming State Director, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003-1828.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Booth, BLM Wyoming State Office, 307-775-6124.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 20, 1999, a petition/application was approved allowing the Fish and Wildlife Service to file an application to withdraw the following described public land from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws, subject to valid existing rights:

Sixth Principal Meridian, Nebraska

T. 22 N., R. 55 W.,
Sec. 17, lots 10 and 11;
Sec. 20, lot 6;
together with all accreted lands thereto.

The area described contains 92.67 acres, more or less, in Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska.

The purpose of the proposed withdrawal is to protect and manage the public domain for migratory bird and riparian habitat values. The withdrawal would also transfer administrative jurisdiction from the Bureau of Land Management to the Fish and Wildlife Service. For a period of 90 days from the date of publication of this notice, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal may present their views in writing to the undersigned officer of the BLM.

Notice is hereby given that an opportunity for a public meeting is afforded in connection with the proposed withdrawal. All interested persons who desire a public meeting for the purpose of being heard on the proposed withdrawal must submit a written request to the Wyoming State Director within 90 days from the date of publication of this notice. Upon determination by the authorized officer that a public meeting will be held, a notice of time and place will be published in the **Federal Register** at least 30 days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The application will be processed in accordance with the regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2300.

For a period of 2 years from the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the land will be segregated as specified above unless the application is denied or canceled or the withdrawal is approved prior to that date. The temporary uses which may be

permitted during this segregative period are licenses, permits, rights-of-way, cooperative agreements, or discretionary land use authorizations of a temporary nature which would not significantly disturb the surface of the land or impact the existing values of the area.

The temporary segregation of the land in connection with a withdrawal application or proposal shall not affect administrative jurisdiction over the land, and the segregation shall not have the effect of authorizing any use of the land by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Dated: November 4, 1999.

Alan R. Pierson,
State Director.

[FR Doc. 99-29544 Filed 11-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-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 1010-0048).

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. We intend to submit this collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval. 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 OMB control number.

DATES: Submit written comments by January 11, 2000.

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. 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 rulemaking 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 of the collection of information at no cost.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 30 CFR Part 251, Geological and Geophysical (G&G) Exploration of the OCS (1010-0048).

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, 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 (43 U.S.C. 1340) also states that "any person authorized by the Secretary may conduct geological and geophysical explorations in the [O]uter Continental Shelf, which do not interfere with or endanger actual operations under any lease maintained or granted pursuant to this OCS Lands Act, and which are not unduly harmful to aquatic life in such area." The section further requires that, permits to conduct such activities may only be issued if it is determined that the applicant is qualified; the activities are not polluting, hazardous, or unsafe; they do not interfere with other users of the area; and do not disturb a site, structure, or object of historical or archaeological significance. Applicants for permits are required to submit form MMS-327 to provide the information necessary to evaluate their qualifications.

Regulations at 30 CFR part 251 implement these statutory requirements. We use the information to ensure there is no environmental degradation, personal harm or unsafe operations and conditions, damage to historical or archaeological sites, or interference with other uses; to analyze and evaluate

preliminary or planned drilling activities; to monitor progress and activities in the OCS; to acquire G&G data and information collected under a Federal permit offshore; and to determine eligibility for reimbursement from the Government for certain costs. The information is necessary to determine if the applicants for permits or filers of notices meet the qualifications specified by the OCS Lands Act. MMS uses information collected to understand the G&G characteristics of oil-and-gas bearing physiographic regions of the OCS. It aids the Secretary in obtaining a proper balance among the potentials for environmental damage, the discovery of oil and gas, and adverse impacts on affected coastal states. Information from permittees is necessary to determine the propriety and amount of reimbursement.

We will protect information from respondents considered proprietary under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and its implementing regulations (43 CFR part 2) and under regulations at 30 CFR parts 250, 251, and 252. No items of a sensitive nature are collected. Responses are mandatory or required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency: The frequency of reporting is on occasion, annually, or as specified in permits.

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: Primarily, approximately 200 Federal OCS permittees or notice filers.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: The currently approved annual reporting burden for this collection is 10,604 hours, which averages 53 hours per respondent. There are no recordkeeping burdens.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost" Burden: We have identified no cost burdens for this collection.

Comments: We will summarize written responses to this notice and address them in our submission for OMB approval. 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 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 "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: November 4, 1999.

Elmer P. Danenberger,

Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.

[FR Doc. 99-29623 Filed 11-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Boundary Revision, Beaumont Unit, Big Thicket National Preserve

DATES: The effective date of this Order shall be November 12, 1999.

SUMMARY: Section 1 of the Act of October 11, 1974, Pub. L. 93-439, 88 Stat. 1254, codified as amended at 16 U.S.C. 698 (1994), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, after advising the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives, in writing, of his intention to do so and of the reasons therefor, to accept title to any lands or interests in lands located outside the boundaries of the preserve which any private person, organization, or public or private corporation may offer to donate to the United States, if he finds that such lands would make a significant contribution to the purposes for which the preserve was created.

Notice is hereby given that, effective on the date of publication of this notice, the boundary of the Beaumont Unit of Big Thicket National Preserve is being revised pursuant to the above-cited act to include those lands owned by Citgo Pipeline Co., comprised of 26.20 acres of land, depicted as Tract No. 189-38 on land acquisition status map, segment 189, having drawing number 175-30,009, dated May 27, 1999, prepared by Land Resources Program Center, Intermountain Region of the National Park Service.

This map is on file and available for inspection in the office of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Land Resources Program Center, Intermountain Region, and the office of the Superintendent, Big Thicket National Preserve.

Dated: September 9, 1999.

John H. King,

Acting Regional Director, Intermountain, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. 99-29619 Filed 11-10-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-70-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Availability of an Abbreviated Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Homestead National Monument of America General Management Plan, Gage County, Nebraska

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy