

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

[WO-300-1330-EO]

**Notice of a 30-Day Public Comment Period To Affirm the Policy for the Standards To Establish the Potash Enclave As Used To Administer the Secretarial Order of 1986 Entitled "Oil and Gas and Potash Leasing and Development Within the Designated Potash Area of Eddy and Lea Counties, New Mexico"****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of correction.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) originally published this notice on Tuesday, August 30, 2005 [70 FR 51364] and solicited public comments on the report which affirms the existing policy on the criteria used to establish the potash enclave. The BLM gave the public 30 days to comment on these Policy Standards. The public comment period ended on Thursday, September 29, 2005. The BLM received numerous requests to lengthen the comment period. The BLM extended the comment period an additional 120 days. The BLM has again received requests to lengthen the comment period. The BLM will again extend the comment period an additional 120 days.

**DATES:** Comments should be submitted to the address below no later than June 12, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to Group Manager, Solid Minerals, 1620 L Street NW., Mail Stop 501 LS, Washington DC 20036.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ted Murphy, Group Manager, Solid Minerals, 1620 L St. NW., Mail Stop 501 LS, Washington, DC 20036, telephone (202) 452-0351.

**Thomas Lonnie,***Assistant Director, Minerals, Realty and Resource Protection.*

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**ACTION:** Notice of extension of an information collection (1010-0137).

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), MMS is inviting comments on a collection of information that we will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The information collection request (ICR) concerns the paperwork requirements in a Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) discussed below.

**DATES:** Submit written comments by April 11, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods listed below. Please use the Information Collection Number 1010-0137 as an identifier in your message.

- Public Connect on-line commenting system, <https://occonnect.mms.gov>. Follow the instructions on the Web site for submitting comments.

- E-mail MMS at [rules.comments@mms.gov](mailto:rules.comments@mms.gov). Identify with Information Collection Number 1010-0137 in the subject line.

- Fax: 703-787-1093. Identify with Information Collection Number 1010-0137.

- Mail or hand-carry comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Attention: Rules Process Team (RPT); 381 Elden Street, MS-4024; Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817. Please reference "Information Collection 1010-0137" in your comments.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Historical Well Data Cleanup Project; Wells Without Assigned MMS API Numbers—Notice to Lessees.

*OMB Control Number:* 1010-0137.

*Abstract:* The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.* and 43 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), authorizes the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to prescribe rules and regulations to administer leasing of the OCS. Such rules and regulations will apply to all operations conducted under a lease. Operations on the OCS must preserve, protect, and develop oil and natural gas resources 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; to balance orderly energy resource development with protection of human, marine, and coastal environments; to ensure the public a fair and equitable

return on the resources of the OCS; and to preserve and maintain free enterprise competition.

The OCSLA 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."

The MMS's Historical Well Data Cleanup Project is currently underway and is expected to last several years to allow operators ample time to provide the missing or corrected data. This notice announces our intention to request a 3-year extension for this information collection.

The information we collect under this NTL, is missing data for wellbores that MMS has not assigned API numbers and other well data discovered as missing while completing the well database cleanup project. We are not able to manage and utilize data from drilling operations accurately without the information for the missing wells. We will use the information to identify other well data (*e.g.*, logs, surveys, tests) missing from our records, geologically map existing MMS data to the correct wellbore/location, and correctly exchange information with the operators and industry. Our geoscientists can use the information to evaluate resources for lease sales for fair market value. With respect to safety concerns, we believe that there may be anywhere from 3,000 to 5,000 unidentified completed and abandoned wellbores (bypasses and sidetracks), some of which may contain stuck drill pipe or other materials. In approving permits and other operations in an area, it is important for us to know what may be adjacent to or near the vicinity of the activity we are approving to minimize the risk of blowouts, loss of well control, and endangerment to life, health, and the environment. This is particularly important as, over the years, the number of wells drilled constantly increases, thereby increasing the risk to adjacent activities if operators are not aware of what might be in the area.

We will protect information respondents submit that is considered proprietary under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and its implementing regulations (43 CFR part 2) and 30 CFR 250.196, "Data and information to be made available to the public." No items of a sensitive nature are collected. Responses are mandatory.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Minerals Management Service****Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.