

Upon publication of this notice of segregation in the **Federal Register** as provided in 43 CFR 2720.1-1(b), the mineral interests owned by the United States in the private lands covered by the application shall be segregated to the extent that they will not be subject to appropriation under the mining and mineral leasing laws. The segregative effect of the application shall terminate by publication of an opening order in the **Federal Register** specifying the date and time of opening; upon issuance of a patent or other document of conveyance to such mineral interest; or two years from the date of publication of this notice, whichever occurs first.

**Howard K. Stark,**

*Chief, Branch of Land Management.*

[FR Doc. 03-9714 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-40-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NM-952-03-1420-BJ]

#### Notice of Filing of Plats of Survey; New Mexico

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The plats of survey described below are scheduled to be officially filed in the New Mexico State Office, Bureau of Land Management, Santa Fe, New Mexico, (30) thirty calendar days from the date of this publication.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Indian Meridian, Oklahoma

T. 26 N., R. 25 E., approved December 10, 2002, for Group 72 OK;

T. 17 N., R. 23 E., approved March 14, 2003, for Group 91 OK;

T. 14 N., R. 24 E., approved March 10, 2003, for Group 96 OK;

##### New Mexico Principal Meridian, New Mexico

T. 31 N., R. 13 W., approved January 29, 2003, for Group 989 NM;

T. 30 N., R. 13 W., approved December 19, 2002, for Group 989 NM;

T. 24 N., R. 11 E., approved March 10, 2003, for Group 997 NM;

Antoine Leroux Grant & Antonio Martinez or Lucero De Godoi Grant, approved September 26, 2002, for Group 968 NM.

If a protest against a survey, as shown on any of the above plats is received prior to the date of official filing, the filing will be stayed pending consideration of the protest. A plat will

not be officially filed until the day after all protests have been dismissed and become final or appeals from the dismissal affirmed.

A person or party who wishes to protest against any of these surveys must file a written protest with the NM 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 a 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.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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

Dated: April 3, 2003.

**Stephen W. Beyerlein,**

*Acting Chief Cadastral Surveyor.*

[FR Doc. 03-9707 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-FB-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[AZ-030-2640-BH; AZA 30192]

#### Notice of Proposed Withdrawal and Opportunity for Public Meeting; Arizona

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management proposes to withdraw 80 acres for a period of 20 years to protect the Tyro Mill Site Reclamation Project. This notice segregates the land for up to 2 years from location and entry under the United States mining laws. The land will remain open to mineral and geothermal leasing and material sales.

**DATES:** Comments should be received on or before July 21, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to the Kingman Field Office Manager, BLM, 2475 Beverly Avenue, Kingman, AZ 86401.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Art Smith, Kingman Field Office, BLM, 2475 Beverly Avenue, Kingman, AZ 86401, 928-692-4433.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Bureau of Land Management has filed

an application to withdraw the following described land from location and entry under the United States mining laws, subject to valid existing rights:

#### Gila and Salt River Meridian

T. 21 N., R. 20 W.,  
Sec. 7, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

The area described contains 80 acres in Mohave County.

All persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal may present their views in writing, by the date specified above, to Kingman Field Office Manager.

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 Kingman Field Office Manager, 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 the time and place will be published in the **Federal Register** and a newspaper 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.

Dated: April 14, 2003.

**Michael A. Taylor,**

*Deputy State Director, Resources Division.*

[FR Doc. 03-9713 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-32-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 an information collection (1010-0071).

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are 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 the regulations under 30 CFR 203, "Relief or Reduction in Royalty Rates."

**DATES:** Submit written comments by June 20, 2003.

**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. If you wish to e-mail comments, the address is: *rules.comments@mms.gov*. Reference "Information Collection 1010-0071" in your e-mail subject line and mark your message for return receipt. Include your name and return address in your message.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Arlene Bajusz, Rules Processing Team, (703) 787-1600. You may also contact Arlene Bajusz to obtain a copy, at no cost, of the regulations that require the subject collection of information.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* 30 CFR 203, Relief or Reduction in Royalty Rates.

*OMB Control Number:* 1010-0071.

*Abstract:* The Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act, as amended by Public Law 104-58, Deep Water Royalty Relief Act (DWRRA), gives the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) the authority to reduce or eliminate royalty or any net profit share specified in OCS oil and gas leases to promote increased production. The DWRRA also authorized the Secretary to suspend royalties when necessary to promote development or recovery of marginal resources on producing or non-producing leases in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) west of 87 degrees, 30 minutes West longitude.

Section 302 of the DWRRA provides that new production from a lease in existence on November 28, 1995, in a water depth of at least 200 meters, and in the GOM west of 87 degrees, 30 minutes West longitude qualifies for royalty suspension in certain situations. To grant a royalty suspension, the Secretary must determine that the new production or development would not be economic without royalty relief. The Secretary must then determine the volume of production on which no royalty would be due in order to make the new production from the lease economically viable. This determination must be done on a case-by-case basis. By regulation published January 15, 2002, (67 FR 1862) production from leases in the same water depth and area issued after November 28, 2000, also can qualify for royalty suspension in addition to any that may be included in their lease terms.

In addition, Federal policy and statute require us to recover the cost of services that confer special benefits to identifiable non-Federal recipients. The Independent Offices Appropriation Act (31 U.S.C. 9701), OMB Circular A-25, and the Omnibus Appropriations Bill (Pub. L. 104-133, 110 Stat. 1321, April 26, 1996) authorize MMS to collect these fees to reimburse us for the cost to process applications or assessments.

Regulations at 30 CFR part 203 implement these statutes and policy and require respondents to pay a fee to request royalty relief. Section 30 CFR 203.3 states that, "We will specify the necessary fees for each of the types of royalty-relief applications and possible MMS audits in a Notice to Lessees. We will periodically update the fees to reflect changes in costs as well as

provide other information necessary to administer royalty relief."

The MMS use the information to make decisions on the economic viability of leases requesting a suspension or elimination of royalty or net profit share. These decisions have enormous monetary impacts to both the lessee and the Federal government. Royalty relief can lead to increased production of natural gas and oil, creating profits for lessees and royalty and tax revenues for the government that they might not otherwise receive. We could not make an informed decision without the collection of information required by 30 CFR part 203.

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 2) and 30 CFR 203.63(b) and 30 CFR 250.196. No items of a sensitive nature are collected. Responses are mandatory or required to obtain or retain a benefit.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

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

*Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden:* The currently approved annual reporting burden for this collection is 8,650 hours. The following chart details the individual components and respective hour burden estimates of this ICR. In calculating the burdens, we assumed that respondents perform certain 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.

Reporting or recordkeeping requirement 30 CFR part 203	Application/Audit Fees		
	Average No. annual responses	Hour burden	Annual burden hours
<b>OCS Lands Act Reporting</b>			
Application—leases that generate earnings that cannot sustain continued production (end-of-life lease).	2 Applications .....	100	200
	Application 2 × \$12,000 = \$24,000* Audit 1 × \$10,000 = \$10,000		
Application—apart from formal programs for royalty relief for marginal producing lease (expect < 1 per year).	1 Application .....	250	250
	Application 1 × \$15,000 = \$15,000* Audit 1 × \$10,000 = \$10,000		
§ 203.55 Renounce relief arrangement (seldom, if ever will be used; minimal burden to prepare letter).	1 Letter .....	1	1
§ 203.81, 203.83 through 203.89 Required reports .....	Burden included with applications		0
OCS Lands Act Reporting Subtotal .....	4 responses .....	N/A	451

Reporting or recordkeeping requirement 30 CFR part 203	Application/Audit Fees		
	Average No. annual responses	Hour burden	Annual burden hours
Processing Fees = \$59,000			
<b>DWRAA Reporting</b>			
Application—leases in designated areas of GOM deep water acquired in lease sale before 11/28/95 or after 11/28/00 and are producing (deep water expansion project).	1 Application .....	2,000	2,000
Application 1 × \$39,000 = \$39,000 No Audit			
Application—leases in designated areas of deep water GOM, acquired in lease sale before 11/28/95 or after 11/28/00, that have not produced (pre-Act or post-2000 deep water leases).	1 Application .....	2,000	2,000
Application 1 × \$49,000 = \$49,000* Audit 1 × \$25,000 = \$25,000			
Application—short form to add or assign pre-Act lease .....	1 Application .....	40	40
Application 1 × \$1,000 = \$1,000 No Audit			
Application—preview assessment (seldom if ever will be used as applicants generally opt for binding determination by MMS instead).	1 Application .....	900	900
Application 1 × \$46,600 = \$46,600 No Audit			
Application—apart from formal programs for royalty relief for marginal expansion project or marginal non-producing lease (expect < 1 per year).	1 Application .....	1,000	1,000
Application 1 × \$49,000 = \$49,000 Audit 1 × \$20,000 = \$20,000			
Redetermination .....	1 Redetermination .....	500	500
Application 1 × \$32,000 = \$32,000* Audit 1 × \$25,000 = \$25,000			
§ 203.70, 203.81, 203.90, 203.91 Submit fabricator's confirmation report .....	2 Reports .....	20	40
§ 203.70, 203.81, 203.90, 203.92 Submit post-production development report .....	2 Reports* .....	50	100
§ 203.77 Renounce relief arrangement (seldom, if ever will be used; minimal burden to prepare letter).	1 Letter .....	1	1
§ 203.79(a) Request reconsideration of MMS field designation .....	4 Requests .....	400	1,600
§ 203.79(c) Request extension of deadline to start construction .....	1 Request .....	2	2
§ 203.81, 203.83 through 203.89 Required reports .....	Burden included with applications		0
DWRAA Reporting Subtotal .....	16 Responses .....	N/A	8,183
Processing Fees = \$286,600			
<b>Recordkeeping Burden</b>			
§ 203.91 Retain cost records for post-production development/fabrication reports (records retained as usual/customary business practice; minimal burden to make available at MMS request).	2 Recordkeepers .....	8	16
Total Annual Burden .....	22 Responses .....	N/A	8,650

\* CPA certification expense burden also imposed on applicant.

*Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost" Burden:* There are two non-hour costs associated with this information collection. The currently approved non-hour cost burden is \$661,000. This estimate is based on:

(a) Application and audit fees. The total annual estimated cost burden for these fees is \$345,600 (refer to burden chart).

(b) Cost of reports prepared by independent certified public accountants. Under § 203.81, a report prepared by an independent certified

public accountant (CPA) must accompany the application and post-production report (expansion project, short form, and preview assessment applications are excluded). The OCS Lands Act applications will require this report only once; the DWRAA applications will require this report at

two stages—with the application and post-production development report for successful applicants. We estimate approximately seven submissions each year at an average cost of \$45,000 per report, for a total estimated annual cost burden of \$315,000.

**Public Disclosure Statement:** The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Until OMB approves a collection of information, you are not obligated to respond.

**Comments:** Before submitting an ICR to OMB, PRA section 3506(c)(2)(A) requires each agency “ \* \* \* to provide notice \* \* \* and otherwise consult with members of the public and affected agencies concerning each proposed collection of information \* \* \* ”.

Agencies must specifically solicit comments to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Agencies must also estimate the “non-hour cost” burdens to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information. Therefore, if you have costs to generate, maintain, and disclose this information, you should comment and provide your total capital and startup cost components or annual operation, maintenance, and purchase of service components. 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, and record storage facilities. You should not include estimates for 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.

We will summarize written responses to this notice and address them in our

submission for OMB approval. As a result of your comments, we will make any necessary adjustments to the burden in our submission to OMB.

**Public Comment Policy:** 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 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.

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

Dated: April 9, 2003.

**E.P. Danenberger,**

*Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.*  
[FR Doc. 03–9695 Filed 4–18–03; 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 an extension of a currently approved information collection (OMB Control Number 1010–0139).

**SUMMARY:** To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, we are 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) is titled “30 CFR Part 216, Production Accounting; Subpart A, General Provisions; and Subpart B, Oil and Gas, General.”

**DATES:** Submit written comments on or before June 20, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments to Sharron L. Gebhardt, Regulatory Specialist, Minerals Management Service, Minerals Revenue Management,

PO Box 25165, MS 320B2, Denver, Colorado 80225. If you use an overnight courier service, our courier address is Building 85, Room A–614, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225. You may also e-mail your comments to us at [mrm.comments@mms.gov](mailto:mrm.comments@mms.gov). Include the title of the information collection and the OMB control number in the “Attention” line of your comment. Also include your name and return address. Submit electronic comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. If you do not receive a confirmation we have received your email, contact Ms. Gebhardt at (303) 231–3211.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sharron L. Gebhardt, telephone (303) 231–3211, FAX (303) 231–3385 or email [sharron.gebhardt@mms.gov](mailto:sharron.gebhardt@mms.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** “30 CFR Part 216, Production Accounting; Subpart A, General Provisions; and Subpart B, Oil and Gas, General.”

**OMB Control Number:** 1010–0139.

**Bureau Form Number:** Forms MMS–4054 and MMS–4058.

**Abstract:** The Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) is responsible for collecting royalties from lessees who produce minerals from leased Federal and Indian lands. The Secretary is required by various laws to manage mineral resources production on Federal and Indian lands, collect the royalties due, and distribute the funds in accordance with those laws. The Secretary also has an Indian trust responsibility to manage Indian lands and seek advice and information from Indian beneficiaries. MMS performs the royalty management functions and assists the Secretary in carrying out DOI’s Indian trust responsibility.

The financial accounting system is an integrated computer system that includes production reports submitted by lease/agreement operators and is designed to track minerals produced from Federal and Indian lands from the point of production to the point of disposition, or royalty determination, and/or point of sale. The financial accounting system also includes payment and sales volumes and values as reported by payors. The production and royalty volumes are compared to verify that proper royalties are received for the minerals produced.

The production reports provide MMS with ongoing information on lease, unit, or communitization agreement (lease/agreement) and facility production, sales volumes, and inventories. The reports summarize all operations on a lease/agreement or facility during a