

BLM office, and may be paid for by credit card, personal check or money order. Overnight walk-in permits are available only at Kane Gulch for \$5/person/trip. Groups of 8–12 and pack and saddle stock supported visitors still require an advance reservation permit during the permit season, obtainable from the Monticello BLM office.

Due to concerns for public safety, resource damage and cultural resources protection, campfires will be prohibited within any canyon on Cedar Mesa. Campfires may still be used on the mesa tops of Cedar Mesa.

Failure to pay any fee, failure to obtain a permit, or operating with an expired permit on Cedar Mesa will make that person responsible under resource and land damages identified in 43 CFR 9268.3 and is punishable under 43 CFR 8372.0–7 pursuant to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, and other laws when applicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Philip Gezon, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Bureau of Land Management, Monticello Field Office, P.O. Box 7, Monticello, Utah 84535 (435) 587–1519.

Dated: January 15, 1999.

G. William Lamb,

Utah State Director.

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BILLING CODE 4310–DQ–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Submitted for Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, DOI.

ACTION: Notice of information collection solicitation.

SUMMARY: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) is soliciting comments on an information collection, Solid Minerals Operational Model (OMB Control Number 1010–0120), which expires on June 30, 1999.

FORM: None.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 29, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments sent via the U.S. Postal Service should be sent to Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, Rules and Publications Staff, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3021, Denver, Colorado 80225–0165; courier address is Building 85, Room

A613, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225; e-mail address is RMP.comments@mms.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dennis C. Jones, Rules and Publications Staff, phone (303) 231–3046, FAX (303) 231–3385, e-mail Dennis.C.Jones@mms.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Section 3506 (c)(2)(A), we are notifying you, members of the public and affected agencies, of this collection of information which expires June 30, 1999. We are requesting OMB approval for a 3 year extension of this existing collection authority. Is this information collection necessary for us to properly do our job? Have we accurately estimated the industry burden for responding to this collection? Can we enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information we collect? Can we lessen the burden of this information collection on the respondents by using automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology?

The Secretary of the Interior is responsible for the collection of royalties from leases producing minerals from leased Federal and Indian lands. The Secretary is required by various laws to manage the production of mineral resources on Indian lands and Federal onshore and offshore leases, to collect the royalties due, and to distribute the funds in accordance with those laws.

MMS performs these royalty management functions for the Secretary. When a company or an individual enters into a contract or lease to develop, mine, and dispose of Federal or Indian minerals, that company or individual (the respondent) agrees to pay the appropriate royalty due based upon gross proceeds received from the sale of production from the leased lands. Royalty rates are specified in the lease agreement.

Specific lease language varies; however, respondents agree by the lease terms to furnish statements providing the details of all operations conducted on a lease and the quantity and quality of all production from the lease at such times and in such form as the Secretary may prescribe. Rules require respondents to provide accurate, complete, and timely reports for all minerals produced, in the manner and form prescribed by MMS in 30 CFR part 210, subpart E, and part 216, subpart A.

In order to facilitate the collection of information listed above, MMS currently requires the submission of eight separate forms. Respondents are

also required to resubmit each of these forms to correct any errors which may have occurred on previous submissions of required information. These eight forms are:

- Form MMS–2014, Report of Sales and Royalty Remittance—payors report all royalty and lease-level transactions.
- Form MMS–4030, Payor Information Form (PIF)—establishes and maintains payor accounts required for processing Form MMS–2014.
- Form MMS–4050, Mine Information Form (MIF)—establishes and maintains mine-level production reporting.
- Form MMS–4051, Facility and Measurement Information Form (FMIF)—establishes and maintains facilities in the volume-tracking system including identifying key sales/transfer measurement points that are required to track production and identify all secondary processing and remote storage facilities.
- Form MMS–4059–A, Solid Minerals Operations Report, Part A (SMOR–A)—identifies the quantity and quality of all raw material produced from each Federal or Indian lease; specifies the disposition of those raw materials including sales, transfers, and adjustments; and tracks raw material inventories.
- Form MMS–4059–B, Solid Minerals Operations Report, Part B (SMOR–B)—allocates sales from a secondary processing or remote storage facility back to individual Federal or Indian leases within a mine.
- Form MMS–4060–A, Solid Minerals Facilities Report, Part A (SMFR–A)—provides detailed information on a secondary processing facilities' inputs/outputs.
- Form MMS–4060–B, Solid Minerals Facilities Report, Part B (SMFR–B)—shows a secondary processing or remote storage facility raw material receipts, production, inventory, and disposition.

In April 1997, we decided to conduct an in-depth reengineering of all our core business processes, and we decided to proceed with three operational models (offshore, onshore, and solid minerals) that will test the proposed reengineered business processes. The solid minerals operational model will initially include reporting from 15 mines owned by four major coal mining companies and one major sodium mining company; the companies volunteered to participate in the project.

In the solid minerals operational model, we will focus on the collection of production, royalty, and valuation data, while streamlining reporting requirements. We will test three reporting formats in the solid minerals operational model. The participating

companies will submit "parallel" reporting formats during the operational model. They will continue to submit all currently required forms and will also submit the three new reporting formats. We anticipate that these three new reporting formats will replace the eight currently submitted forms listed above.

We have combined six of the current forms into one monthly submission titled Form MMS-4430, Production and Royalty Report. We have combined two forms, Forms MMS-4060-A and MMS-4060-B, into a quarterly information collection titled Form MMS-4431, Facility Report. We have also developed a new quarterly Form MMS-4432, Marketing Profile Report, to obtain necessary contract information from respondents. The profile report will alert us to possible compliance problems at the beginning of the audit process, thereby allowing us to provide more timely resolution.

We will collect the production, royalty, and valuation data using information technology. The information collected will be used to support:

- Distribution and Disbursement. We must match the royalty payment submitted on Form MMS-2014 to the Production and Royalty Report, maintain lease accounts of payments, and ensure the distribution of data and disbursement of monies to our revenue recipients.
- Compliance and Asset Management Processes. We must determine areas not in compliance for a lease or mine sooner than the current processes allow. The Production and Royalty Report format is designed to give us the basic volume and valuation information necessary to begin these compliance activities so that we may compare it to the Facility Report and Market Profile Report formats.
- Monitoring Allowances and Off-site Activity. We must monitor allowance deductions and off-site inventory and sales. Companies maintain electronic data files of this information as a normal course of business. We propose to download the data from these company-maintained files to our compliance data systems. Our intent is to minimize the information collection burden on industry respondents as well as ourselves.
- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Production Verification, Diligent Development, and Recoverable Reserves Calculations. We must make facility data available on-line to all BLM, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Tribes, and State Audit offices. During the operational model, we will refine the data provided on the Facility Report to

ensure BLM can perform these processes, including monitoring plant efficiencies, maximum recovery and secondary product inventories.

- Compliance and Asset Management Processes. We will require the submission of supplemental information (Marketing Profile Report) be submitted to facilitate the compliance aspect of our reengineering efforts. The Marketing Profile Report information will be an integral part of the Compliance and Asset Management process being developed in the operational model. We will use this information to verify royalty value and augment monitoring and detection of compliance problems on those mines. This information will only be collected from those reporters whose royalties are based on gross proceeds or who sell products beyond the mine site.

To determine a reasonable hourly reporting burden using the new reports of the operational model, we started with the current reporting burden for the eight forms and, based on the elimination of some reporting functions and the corresponding reduction in reporting burden, we calculated the reduced burden for the three new reports. Approximately 90 coal mines currently report Federal lease production, and we receive an average of 12,000 coal financial data lines annually, 11 lines per month per reporting mine. We estimate that 2 minutes are spent on each line that is reported electronically, or 22 minutes for reporting royalty data to MMS per month per mine. We also estimate that a company spends 1.5 hours per month preparing and submitting their production data. Therefore, the reporting burden for both the financial and production data for the current system is approximately 2 hours per month per mine.

Using the new Production and Royalty Report, a respondent's reporting burden will be reduced. Adjustments made to correct previously reported information will be "netted" so that only one line will be reported rather than the two lines—the original, incorrect line and the new, corrected line—that are currently reported. Adjustment lines constitute 76 percent of the financial data submitted. Since respondents will no longer need to "back out" a reported line, their reporting burden for adjustment lines is reduced by one-half. The reporting burden is again reduced because only production by lease is reported, eliminating inventory calculations and transfer amounts which will be calculated automatically. We estimate that the reporting burden for both the

financial and production data for the solid minerals operational model will be reduced to 1 hour per month per mine.

The Facility Report requires information that is readily available to each mining company from their files, and we estimate that the reporting burden is 15 minutes per month per mine.

The Marketing Profile Report requires up to 27 lines of input each quarter, although much of the information will generally not change from one quarter to the next. The information required is readily available to each mining company from their own files, and we estimate that the reporting burden is 45 minutes to fill out this form each quarter or 15 minutes per month per mine.

The total annual reporting burden associated with these three new reports for the solid minerals operational model (5 companies reporting on 15 mines) is 270 hours (1.5 hours per month × 12 months × 15 mines).

Dated: January 20, 1999.

Joan Killgore,

Acting Associate Director for Royalty Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Change in Noise Evaluation Methodology for Air Tour Operations Over Grand Canyon National Park

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.
ACTION: Public notice.

SUMMARY: As part of its implementation actions to achieve the objectives of Public Law 100-91 regarding the substantial restoration of natural quiet at Grand Canyon National Park (GCNP), including current rulemaking [and environmental assessment actions], the National Park Service (NPS) is working cooperatively with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on further actions to aid that restoration as well as planning for the development of a comprehensive noise management plan for air tour operations over GCNP. NPS previously determined that in order to substantially restore natural quiet to GCNP, at least 50 percent of the park must achieve "natural quiet" (i.e., no aircraft audible) for 75 to 100 percent of the day. The reasonableness and validity of this standard was upheld by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in 1998.

In previous environmental assessments related to GCNP