

species. See “What information is considered in the review?” heading for specific criteria. Information submitted should be supported by documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, methods used to gather and analyze the data, and/or copies of any pertinent publications, reports, or letters by knowledgeable sources. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home addresses from the supporting record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we may withhold from the supporting record a respondent’s identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will not consider anonymous comments, however. 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.

Authority: This document is published under the authority of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: July 5, 2005.

Cynthia K. Dohner,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 05–14713 Filed 7–25–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–55–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 (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of an information collection (1010–0041).

SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we have submitted to OMB an information collection request (ICR) to renew approval of the paperwork requirements in the regulations under 30 CFR part 250, “Subpart K, Oil and Gas Production Rates,” and related documents. This notice also provides the public a second opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of these regulatory requirements.

DATES: Submit written comments by August 25, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this information collection directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior either via OMB email: (OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov); or by fax (202) 395–6566; identify with (1010–0041).

Submit a copy of your comments to the Department of the Interior, MMS, via:

- MMS’s Public Connect on-line commenting system, <https://ocsconnect.mms.gov>. Follow the instructions on the website for submitting comments.
- E-mail MMS at rules.comments@mms.gov. Use Information Collection Number 1010–0041 in the subject line.
- Fax: 703–787–1093. Identify with Information Collection Number 1010–0041.
- Mail or hand-carry comments to the Department of the Interior; Minerals Management Service; Attention: Rules Processing Team (RPT); 381 Elden Street, MS–4024; Herndon, Virginia 20170–4817. Please reference “Information Collection 1010–0041” in your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cheryl Blundon, Rules Processing Team, (703) 787–1600. You may also contact Cheryl Blundon to obtain a copy, at no cost, of the regulations and forms that require the subject collection of information.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 30 CFR part 250, Subpart K, Oil and Gas Production Rates.

OMB Control Number: 1010–0041.

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.

Section 5(a) of the OCS Lands Act requires the Secretary to prescribe rules and regulations “to provide for the

prevention of waste, and conservation of the natural resources of the Outer Continental Shelf, and the protection of correlative rights therein” and to include provisions “for the prompt and efficient exploration and development of a lease area.”

Section 1334(g)(2) states “* * * the lessee shall produce such oil or gas, or both, at rates * * * to assure the maximum rate of production which may be sustained without loss of ultimate recovery of oil or gas, or both, under sound engineering and economic principles, and which is safe for the duration of the activity covered by the approved plan.”

In addition, MMS also issues various Notices to Lessees (NTLs) and Operators to clarify and provide additional guidance on some aspects of the regulations, as well as various forms to capture the data and information. The current subpart K regulations specify the use of forms MMS–126 (Well Potential Test Report, 1010–0039, expiration 10/31/07), MMS–127 (Sensitive Reservoir Information Report, 1010–0018, expiration 10/31/07), and MMS–128 (Semiannual Well Test Report, 1010–0017, expiration 8/31/05), that were approved individually by OMB and assigned separate control numbers. This submission also includes the burden for form MMS–140 (Bottomhole Pressure Survey Report). Form MMS–140 is used in the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (GOMR) for submitting the results of static bottomhole pressure surveys required under § 250.1104(c). With this submission, we are now merging all the collections for the forms associated with subpart K into the primary collection for subpart K, OMB control number 1010–0041.

Regulations implementing these responsibilities are under 30 CFR part 250. Responses are mandatory. No questions of a “sensitive” nature are asked.

The MMS protects information 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 250.196, “Data and information to be made available to the public.” 30 CFR part 252, “OCS Oil and Gas Information Program.” Proprietary information concerning geological and geophysical data will be protected according to 43 U.S.C. 1352.

The information collected under subpart K is used in our efforts to conserve natural resources, prevent waste, and protect correlative rights, including the Government’s royalty

interest. Specifically, MMS uses the information to:

- Evaluate requests to burn liquid hydrocarbons and vent and flare gas to ensure that these requests are appropriate;
- To determine if a maximum production or efficient rate is required; and,
- To review applications for downhole commingling to ensure that action does not result in harm to ultimate recovery.

The following forms are also submitted to MMS. OMB approved these forms as part of four separate information collections. This submission merges all the forms listed below into the primary collection of subpart K, 1010–0041.

Form 126—Well Potential Test Report—MMS uses this information for reservoir, reserves, and conservation analyses, including the determination of maximum production rates (MPRs) when necessary for certain oil and gas completions. This requirement implements the conservation provisions of the OCS Lands Act and 30 CFR part 250. The information obtained from the well potential test is essential to determine if an MPR is necessary for a well and to establish the appropriate rate. It is not possible to specify an MPR in the absence of information about the production rate capability (potential) of the well.

Form MMS–127, Sensitive Reservoir Information Report—MMS uses this information to determine whether a rate-sensitive reservoir is being prudently developed. This represents an essential control mechanism that MMS may use to regulate production rates from sensitive reservoirs. Occasionally, the information available on a reservoir, early in its producing life, may indicate it to be non-sensitive, while later and more complete information would establish the reservoir as being sensitive. Production from a well completed in the gas cap of a sensitive reservoir requires approval from the Regional Supervisor. The information submitted on this form provides reservoir parameters that are revised at least annually or sooner if reservoir development results in a change in reservoir interpretation. The engineers and geologists use the information for rate control and reservoir studies.

Form MMS–128, Semiannual Well Test Report—MMS uses this information to evaluate the results of well tests to determine if reservoirs are being depleted in a manner that will lead to the greatest ultimate recovery of hydrocarbons. This information is collected to determine the capability of hydrocarbon wells and to evaluate and verify an operator's approved maximum production rate if assigned. The form was designed to present current well data on a semiannual basis to permit the updating of permissible producing rates,

and to provide the basis for estimates of currently remaining recoverable gas reserves.

Form MMS–140, Bottomhole Pressure Survey Report—MMS uses the information to effectively manage reservoirs in our efforts to conserve natural resources, prevent waste, and protect correlative rights, including the Government's royalty interest. Specifically, MMS uses the information in reservoir evaluations to determine maximum production and efficient rates; and to review applications for downhole commingling to ensure that action does not result in harm to ultimate recovery or undervalued royalties.

Frequency: On occasion, monthly, semi-annually, annually, and as a result of situations encountered.

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: Approximately 136 Federal oil and gas lessees.

Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden: The estimated annual "hour" burden for this information collection is a total of 43,065 hours. The following chart details the individual components and estimated hour burdens. 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.

Citation 30 CFR 250 subpart K and NTL(s)	Reporting & recordkeeping requirement	Hour burden	Average number annual responses	Annual burden hours
1101(b)	Request approval to produce within 500 feet of a lease line	5	50 requests	250
1101(c)	Request approval to produce gas cap of a sensitive reservoir	12	125 requests	1,500
1102	Submit form MMS–126	3	1,325 forms	3,975
	Submit form MMS–127	2.2	2,189 forms	4,816
	Submit form MMS–128 *	0.5–3	13,000 forms-GOM 600 forms-POCS	1,336 *
1102(a)(5)	Submit alternative plan for overproduction status—MMS is not currently collecting this information			0
1102(b)(6)	Request extension of time to submit results of semiannual requests well test.	.5	37 requests	19
1103(a)	Request approval of test periods of less than 4 hours requests and pretest stabilization periods of less than 6 hours.	.5	37 requests	19
1103(c)	Provide advance notice of time and date of well tests	.5	10 notices	5
1104(c)	Submit results of all static bottomhole pressure surveys obtained by lessee. Information is submitted on form MMS–140 in the Gulf of Mexico Region.	14	1,270 surveys	17,780
1105(a), (b)	Request special approval to flare or vent oil-well gas	.5	1,007 requests	504
1105(c)	Request approval to burn produced liquid hydrocarbons.	.5	60 requests	30
1105(f)	Submit monthly reports of flared or vented gas containing H ₂ S	2	3 operators × 12 mos. = 36.	72
1105(f)	H ₂ S Contingency, Exploration, or Development and Production Plans—burden covered under 1010–0141 and 1010–0049			0
1106	Submit application to downhole commingle hydrocarbons	6	119 applications	714
1107(b)	Submit proposed plan for enhanced recovery operations	12	27 plans	324
1107(c)	Submit periodic reports of volumes of oil, gas, or other substances injected, produced, or reproduced.	2	77 reports	154

Citation 30 CFR 250 subpart K and NTL(s)	Reporting & recordkeeping requirement	Hour burden	Average number annual responses	Annual burden hours
1100–1107	General departure or alternative compliance requests not specifically covered elsewhere in subpart K, including bottomhole pressure survey waivers and reservoir reclassification requests.	1 6	120 survey waivers 20 requests	120 120
.....	Reporting Subtotal		20,109	31,738
1105(d), (e)	Maintain records for 2 years detailing gas flaring or venting	13	869 platforms	11,297
1105(d), (e)	Maintain records for 2 years detailing liquid hydrocarbon burning	.5	60 occurrences	30
.....	Recordkeeping Subtotal		136	11,327
.....			Recordkeepers	
.....	Total Burden		21,038	43,065

*Reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 0.5 to 3 hours per form depending on the number of well tests reported, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. See breakdown for form MMS–128 above.

Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping “Non-Hour Cost” Burden: We have identified no paperwork “non-hour cost” burdens associated with the collection of information.

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: Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) 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.

To comply with the public consultation process, on February 8, 2005, we published a **Federal Register** notice (70 FR 6725) announcing that we would submit this ICR to OMB for approval. The notice provided the required 60-day comment period. In addition, § 250.199 provides the OMB control number for the information collection requirements imposed by the 30 CFR part 250 regulations and forms. The regulation also informs the public

that they may comment at any time on the collections of information and provides the address to which they should send comments. We have received no comments in response to these efforts.

If you wish to comment in response to this notice, you may send your comments to the offices listed under the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, to ensure maximum consideration, OMB should receive public comments by August 25, 2005.

Public Comment Procedures: MMS’s practice is to make comments, including names and addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. If you wish your name and/or address to be withheld, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. MMS will honor the request to the extent allowable by the law; however, anonymous comments will not be considered. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer: Arlene Bajusz (202) 208–7744.

Dated: April 12, 2005.

E.P. Danenberger,
Chief, Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs.
[FR Doc. 05–14714 Filed 7–25–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–MR–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 (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of extension of an information collection (1010–0141).

SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we have submitted to OMB an information collection request (ICR) to renew approval of the paperwork requirements in the regulations under 30 CFR part 250, Subpart D, “Oil and Gas Drilling Operations,” and related documents. This notice also provides the public a second opportunity to comment on the paperwork burden of these regulatory requirements.

DATES: Submit written comments by August 24, 2005.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this ICR directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) either by e-mail (OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov) or by fax (202) 395–6566, directly to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (1010–0141).

Submit a copy of your comments to the Department of the Interior, MMS, via:

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

- E-mail MMS at rules.comments@mms.gov. Use