

introductory text and paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(5), respectively.

b. New paragraph (b) is added immediately after Example (2) in newly designated paragraph (a)(5).

6. The last two sentences of A-9 are amended by removing the language "paragraph (e)" and adding "paragraph (a)(5)" in its place.

7. One sentence is added at the end of A-10.

8. A-11 is amended as follows:

a. In A-11, introductory text and paragraphs (a) and (b) are redesignated as paragraph (a) introductory text and paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2), respectively.

b. New paragraph (b) is added.

9. A-17 is amended as follows:

a. Paragraph (a)(3) is revised.

b. Paragraph (c) is added.

10. The first and second sentences of A-19 are amended by removing the language "paragraph (d) or paragraph (e)" and adding "paragraph (a)(4) or (5)" in its place.

11. A-22 is amended by adding three sentences before the last sentence.

The additions and revisions read as follows:

§ 301.6112-1 Questions and answers relating to the requirement to maintain a list of investors in potentially abusive tax shelters.

(The text of the amendments to this proposed section is the same as the text of the amendments to § 301.6112-1T published elsewhere in this issue of the *Federal Register*.)

Robert E. Wenzel,

Deputy Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Part 206

RIN 1010-AC59

Valuation of Federal Geothermal Resources

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Withdrawal of advance notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: MMS withdraws its August 19, 1999, Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Advance Notice) regarding the valuation of Federal geothermal resources. After further analysis, we conclude that the concerns that prompted the Advance Notice can be

satisfactorily addressed using alternative valuation methods available in existing regulations. This notice terminates the geothermal rulemaking process initiated by the Advance Notice.

DATES: The advance notice of proposed rulemaking is withdrawn as of August 16, 2000.

ADDRESSES: See **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles Brook, Royalty Valuation Division, MMS; telephone, (303) 275-7250; E-mail, Charles.Brook@mms.gov; mailing address, Minerals Management Service, Royalty Valuation Division, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3153, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: MMS published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the *Federal Register* on August 19, 1999 (64 FR 45213), requesting public comments on new methods of valuing, for royalty purposes, Federal geothermal resources that are not subject to a sales transaction (the "no-sales" resources). MMS took this action in response to concerns raised by several California congressional representatives and their constituent county governments over declining royalties. The concerns centered around the use of the netback procedure to value no-sales electrical generation resources. MMS also solicited comments on valuation standards for direct-use resources.

The comment period on the Advance Notice closed on October 18, 1999. MMS also held a public workshop on October 7, 1999 (64 FR 50026), and met with several industry representatives on December 7, 1999.

MMS received written comments from 20 respondents, including representatives of States, county governments, and industry; members of a municipal utility; and a Member of Congress. All of the comments focused on the valuation of electrical generation resources. Fourteen of the 20 respondents—all of the industry representatives, the members of the municipal utility, a Member of Congress, and a State representative—commented on the existing netback valuation procedure. The remaining 6 respondents commented on other geothermal valuation procedures. MMS received no comments on the valuation of direct-use resources.

The comments did not reveal a preferred valuation method for no-sales resources. In general, advocates of one valuation method found fault with, or were fundamentally opposed to, other methods. Some respondents also questioned the merits of the rulemaking,

stating that MMS had not fully presented its reasons for the new valuation rules.

Based on the comments received, both written and verbal, the impact of declining royalties appears to affect only a few county governments and geothermal lessees operating within those counties. Both MMS and the lessees involved have taken steps to mitigate this impact by exploring alternative valuation methods within the existing regulatory structure. These efforts are proving successful and are satisfying the concerns of the affected county governments and Members of Congress. Accordingly, MMS believes it is no longer necessary to pursue a rulemaking for geothermal valuation and withdraws its August 19, 1999, Advance Notice.

Dated: August 10, 2000.

Lucy Querques Denett,

Associate Director for Royalty Management.

[FR Doc. 00-20815 Filed 8-15-00; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 70

[CO-001b; FRL-6851-2]

Clean Air Act Proposed Full Approval of Operating Permit Program; Approval of Expansion of State Program Under Section 112(I); State of Colorado

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The EPA is proposing to approve the operating permit program submitted by the State of Colorado. Colorado's program was submitted for the purpose of meeting the Federal Clean Air Act directive that States develop, and submit to EPA, programs for issuing operating permits to all major stationary sources and to certain other sources within the State's jurisdiction.

In the "Rules and Regulations" section of this *Federal Register*, the EPA is promulgating full approval of the Colorado program as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the state is currently running the program and the Agency views this as a noncontroversial action and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the preamble to the direct final rule.

In addition, EPA is also approving the expansion of Colorado's program for receiving delegation of section 112