

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:** MMS's practice is to make comments, including names and home 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 this request to the extent allowable by 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 Federal Register Liaison Officer:** Denise Johnson, (202) 208-3976.

Dated: November 12, 2003.

**E.P. Danenberger,**

Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.  
[FR Doc. 03-28834 Filed 11-18-03; 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 extension of an information collection (1010-0142).

**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 the regulations under 30 CFR 250, subpart Q "Decommissioning Activities."

**DATES:** Submit written comments by January 20, 2004.

**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](mailto:rules.comments@mms.gov). Reference "Information Collection 1010-0142" 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 at (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 part 250, subpart Q, Decommissioning Activities.

**OMB Control Number:** 1010-0142.

**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 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 other techniques sufficient to prevent or minimize the likelihood of blowouts, loss of well control, fires, spillages, physical obstructions 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 regulations at 30 CFR 250, subpart Q, implement these requirements and concern decommissioning of platforms, wells, and pipelines, as well as site clearance and platform removal. The MMS uses the information collected under subpart Q in the following ways:

- To determine the necessity for allowing a well to be temporarily abandoned, the lessee/operator must demonstrate that there is a reason for not permanently abandoning the well, and the temporary abandonment will not constitute a significant threat to fishing, navigation, or other uses of the seabed. MMS uses the information and documentation to verify that the lessee is diligently pursuing the final disposition of the well and that the lessee has performed the temporary plugging of the wellbore.
- The information submitted in "initial" decommissioning plans in the Alaska and Pacific OCS Regions will permit MMS to become involved on the ground floor planning of the world-class platform removals anticipated to occur in these OCS regions.
- Site clearance and platform or pipeline removal information ensures that all objects (wellheads, platforms, etc.) installed on the OCS are properly removed using procedures that will protect marine life and the environment during removal operations and that the site is cleared so as not to conflict with or harm other uses of the OCS.
- Decommissioning a pipeline in place is needed to ensure that it will not constitute a hazard to navigation and commercial fishing operations, unduly interfere with other uses of the OCS, or have adverse environmental effects.
- The information is necessary to verify that decommissioning activities comply with approved applications and procedures and are satisfactorily completed.

MMS will protect information from respondents 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." No items of a sensitive nature are collected. Responses are mandatory.

*Frequency:* On occasion, annual, and as specified in sections.

*Estimated Number and Description of Respondents:* Approximately 236

Federal OCS oil, gas, and sulphur lessees and holders of pipeline rights-of-way.

*Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden:* The currently approved annual reporting burden for this collection is 6,071 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.

Citation 30 CFR 250 Subpart Q	Reporting requirement	Hour burden
1703; 1704 .....	Request approval for decommissioning .....	Burden included below.
1704(g); 1712; 1716; 1717; 1721(a), (f), (g); 1722(a), (b), (d); 1723(b); 1743(a).	Submit form MMS-124 to plug wells; provide subsequent report; request alternate depth departure; request procedure to protect obstructions above seafloor; report results of trawling; certify area cleared of obstructions; remove casing stub or mud line suspension equipment and subsea protective covering; or other departures.	Burden included under 1010-0045.
1713 .....	Notify MMS 48 hours before beginning operations to permanently plug a well .....	15 minutes.
1721(e); 1722(e), (h)(1); 1741(c).	Identify and report subsea wellheads, casing stubs, or other obstructions; mark wells protected by a dome; mark location to be cleared as navigation hazard.	U.S. Coast Guard requirements.
1722(c), (g)(2) .....	Notify MMS within 5 days if trawl does not pass over protective device or causes damages to it; or if inspection reveals casing stub or mud line suspension is no longer protected.	15 minutes.
1722(f), (g)(3) .....	Submit annual report on plans for re-entry to complete or permanently abandon the well and inspection report.	2.
1722(h) .....	Request waiver of trawling test .....	2.
1704(a); 1726 .....	Submit initial decommissioning application in the Pacific OCS Region and Alaska OCS Region.	20.
1704(b); 1725; 1727; 1728; 1730.	Submit final application to remove platform or other subsea facility structures (including alternate depth departure) or approval to maintain, to conduct other operations, or to convert to artificial reef.	8.
1725(e) .....	Notify MMS 48 hours before beginning removal of platform and other facilities .....	15 minutes.
1704(c); 1729 .....	Submit post platform or other facility removal report .....	2.
1740; 1743(b) .....	Request approval to use alternative methods of well site, platform, or other facility clearance.	4.
1743(b) .....	Verify permanently plugged well, platform, or other facility removal site cleared of obstructions and submit certification letter.	12.
1704(d); 1751; 1752 ..	Submit application to decommission pipeline in place or remove pipeline .....	8.
1753 .....	Submit post pipeline decommissioning report .....	2.
1700 thru 1754 .....	General departure and alternative compliance requests not specifically covered elsewhere in subpart Q regulations.	2.

*Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost"*

*Burden:* We have identified no cost burdens for this collection.

*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.

MMS will summarize written responses to this notice and address them in the submission for OMB approval. As a result of your comments, MMS will make any necessary adjustments to the burden in the submission to OMB.

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prominently at the beginning of your comment. MMS will honor this request to the extent allowable by 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 Federal Register Liaison Officer:* Denise Johnson at (202) 208-3976.

Dated: November 12, 2003.

**E.P. Danenberger,**

*Chief, Engineering and Operations Division.*

[FR Doc. 03-28835 Filed 11-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

#### Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), Alaska OCS Region

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of the Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Proposed Oil and Gas Lease Sales in Cook Inlet, Alaska.

**SUMMARY:** MMS announces the availability of the Final EIS prepared by MMS for proposed OCS Lease Sales 191 (2004) and 199 (2006) offshore Cook Inlet, Alaska.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Minerals Management Service, Alaska OCS Region, 949 East 36th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4363, Attention: Dr. James Lima, telephone: (907) 271-6684 or toll free 1-800-764-2627.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This EIS assesses two sales in the 2002-2007 5-Year Oil and Gas Leasing Program for the Cook Inlet OCS Planning Area. Sale 191 is scheduled for 2004 and Sale 199 for 2006. Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1502.4) suggest analyzing similar or like proposals in a single EIS. The proposal analyzed for each sale is to offer 517 whole or partial lease blocks in the Cook Inlet OCS Planning Area, covering about 2.5 million acres (about 1 million hectares). The proposed sale area is seaward of the State of Alaska submerged lands boundary, extending from 3 miles to approximately 30 miles offshore and to water depths more than 650 feet. It extends from below Kalgin Island south to approximately Shuyak Island.

EIS Availability: Persons interested in reviewing the Final EIS "OCS EIS/EA, MMS 2003-055" (Volumes I through III)

can either locate it on the Internet at [www.mms.gov/alaska/cproject/Cook\\_Inlet/Cook\\_Inlet\\_Sale.htm](http://www.mms.gov/alaska/cproject/Cook_Inlet/Cook_Inlet_Sale.htm); or contact the MMS Alaska OCS Regional Office. The documents are available for public inspection between the hours of 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday at: Minerals Management Service, Alaska OCS Region, Resource Center, 949 East 36th Avenue, Room 330, Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4363, telephone: (907) 271-6070 or (907) 271-6621 or toll free at 1-800-764-2627. Requests may also be sent to MMS at [akwebmaster@mms.gov](mailto:akwebmaster@mms.gov). You may obtain single copies of the Final EIS, the Executive Summary, or a CD-ROM version, from the same address. You may also look at copies of the Final EIS in the following libraries:

Alaska Pacific University, Academic Support Center Library, 4101 University Drive, Anchorage, Alaska;

Alaska Resources Library and Information Service (ARLIS), U.S. Department of the Interior, 3150 C Street, Suite 100, Anchorage, Alaska;

Alaska State Library, Government Publications, State Office Building, 333 Willoughby, Juneau, Alaska; Anchor Point Public Library, 73405 Milo Fitz Avenue,

Anchor Point, Alaska; Chiniak Public Library, 42650 Chiniak Highway, Chiniak,

Alaska; Fairbanks North Star Borough, Noel Wien Library, 1215 Cowles Street, Fairbanks, Alaska;

Halibut Cove Library, Halibut Cove, Alaska;

Homer Public Library, 141 W. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska;

Jessie Wakefield Memorial Library, 207 Spruce Drive, Port Lions, Alaska;

Johnson Memorial Library, 319 Lower Mill Bay Road, Kodiak, Alaska;

Juneau Public Library, 292 Marine Way, Juneau, Alaska;

Kachemak Bay Campus Library, 533 Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska;

Kasilof Public Library, Mile 110 Sterling Highway, Kasilof, Alaska;

Kenai Community Library, 163 Main Street Loop, Kenai, Alaska;

Kenai Peninsula College Library, 34820 College Drive, Soldotna, Alaska;

King Cove Community School Library, King Cove, Alaska;

Kodiak College Library, 117 Benny Benson Drive, Kodiak, Alaska;

Nanwalek Elementary/High School Library, Nanwalek, Alaska;

Ninilchik Community Library, 15850 Sterling Highway, Ninilchik, Alaska;

North Slope Borough School District, Library/Media Center, Barrow, Alaska;

Northern Alaska Environmental Center Library, 218 Driveway, Fairbanks, Alaska;

Old Harbor Library, Three Saints Avenue, Old Harbor, Alaska;

Ouzinkie Tribal Media Center, 110 Third Street, Ouzinkie, Alaska;

Port Graham Elementary/High School Library, Port Graham, Alaska;

Sand Point School Library, Sand Point, Alaska;

Seldovia Public Library, 260 Seldovia Street, Seldovia, Alaska;

Soldatna Public Library, 235 Binkley Street, Soldatna, Alaska;

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Library, U.S. Department of Defense, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Anchorage, Alaska;

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 Library, 1200 6th Avenue, OMP-104, Seattle, Washington;

University of Alaska Anchorage, Consortium Library, 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, Alaska;

University of Alaska Fairbanks, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, Government Documents, 310 Tanana Drive, Fairbanks, Alaska;

University of Alaska Fairbanks, Geophysical Institute, Government Documents, Fairbanks,

Alaska; University of Alaska Fairbanks, Institute of Arctic Biology, 311 Irving Building, Fairbanks,

Alaska; University of Alaska, Southeast, 11120 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska;

Valdez Consortium Library, 200 Fairbanks Street, Valdez, Alaska; Z. J. Loussac Library, 3600 Denali Street, Anchorage, Alaska.

Dated: September 22, 2003.

**Thomas A. Readinger,**

*Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management.*

Approved: September 24, 2003.

**Willie R. Taylor,**

*Director, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance.*

[FR Doc. 03-28868 Filed 11-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

#### Outer Continental Shelf, Western Planning Area, Oil and Gas Lease Sale 192 (2004)

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service.

**ACTION:** Preparation of an environmental assessment.

**SUMMARY:** The Minerals Management Service (MMS) is beginning preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) for proposed Lease Sale 192 (scheduled for August 2004) in the Western Planning Area (WPA) of the Gulf of Mexico (GOM). The preparation of this EA is the