

Establishing Oil Value for Royalty Due on Indian Leases.

OMB Control Number: 1010-NEW.

Abstract: The Secretary of the Interior is responsible for collecting 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; we perform these royalty management functions for the Secretary.

Two additional information collection requirements have been identified in the supplementary proposed rule published on January 5, 2000 (65 FR 403) as follows:

- Section 206.52 explains how Indian lessees must determine the value of oil produced from Indian leases. For royalty purposes, the value of oil produced from leases subject to 30 CFR part 206 Subpart B—Indian Oil is the value calculated under this section with applicable adjustments determined under this subpart. The lessee must report the higher of either their gross proceeds from an arm's-length transaction, or an applicable adjusted spot price. The lessee may be required to revise its initial report and remit additional consideration if the MMS-calculated major portion price is above the initially reported value.

- Section 206.61(c)(3) states that if an MMS-calculated differential under paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section does not apply to an Indian lessee's oil, either due to location or quality differences, the Indian lessee must file a written request for MMS to calculate an Indian lessee-specific differential. This request must demonstrate why the published differential does not adequately address an Indian lessee's specific circumstances.

Another information collection requirement was also identified in the proposed rule published on February 12, 1998 (63 FR 7089) as follows:

- Section 206.54 allows lessees to ask MMS for valuation guidance. The lessee may develop and propose a value method to MMS. The lessee would submit all available data related to their proposal and any additional information MMS deems necessary. MMS would promptly review the proposal and provide the requested guidance.

We will review and carefully consider any comments received specific to these additional information collection requirements, including any comments received from a public meeting which was held on February 8, 2000, in

Denver, Colorado. We will summarize and address all comments in the final rule.

Respondents/Affected Entities:

Companies that pay royalties on oil produced from tribal and allotted Indian leases.

Frequency of Response: Annually and monthly.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 225.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden: 6,680 hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Non-Hour Cost Burden: We have identified no cost burdens for this collection over those included in the hour burden.

Comments: Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act 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.

Send your comments directly 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 March 20, 2000.

MMS Information Collection

Clearance Officer: Jo Ann Lauterbach (202) 208-7744.

Dated: February 14, 2000.

Walt Rosenbusch,

Director for Mineral, Management Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—The ATM Forum

Notice is hereby given that, on July 14, 1999, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the

National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (“the Act”), The ATM Forum has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership status. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Carrier Access Corporation, Boulder, CO has been added as a party to this venture. The following member has changed its name: Wandel & Goltermann to Wavetek Wandel Goltermann, Eningen, GERMANY.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and The ATM Forum intends to file additional written notification disclosing all changes in membership.

On April 19, 1993, The ATM Forum filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act on June 2, 1993 (58 FR 31415).

The last notification was filed with the Department on April 15, 1999. A notice has not yet been published in the **Federal Register**.

Constance K. Robinson,

Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Antitrust Division

Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Bethlehem Steel Corporation and U.S. Steel Group, a Unit of USX Corporation

Notice is hereby given that, on July 21, 1999, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* (“the Act”), Bethlehem Steel Corporation and U.S. Steel Group, A Unit of USX Corporation, filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing a change in its project status. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances.