

[4310-MR-W]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

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

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), DOI

ACTION: Notice of an extension to a currently approved information collection (1010-0087)

SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are soliciting comments on an information collection titled, Cooperative Agreements. This information collection request is at OMB for review and approval.

DATES: Submit written comments on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior (OMB Control Number 1010-0087), 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20503. Also, submit copies of your written comments to David S. Guzy, Chief, Rules and Publications Staff, Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3021, Denver, Colorado 80225. If you use an

overnight courier service, our courier address is Building 85, Room A-613, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225.

PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURE: Submit your comments to the addresses listed in the "ADDRESSES" section or email your comments to us at RMP.comments@mms.gov. Include the title of the information collection and the OMB Control Number in the "Attention" line of your comment; also, include your name and return address. Submit electronic comments as an ASCII file, avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. If you do not receive a confirmation that we have received your email, contact David S. Guzy at (303) 231-3432. We will post all comments at <http://www.rmp.mms.gov> for public review.

Paper copies of the comments may be reviewed by contacting David S. Guzy, Chief, Rules and Publications Staff, telephone (303)231-3432, FAX (303)231-3385. Our practice is to make paper copies of these comments, including names and addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours at our offices in Lakewood, Colorado. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the public record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from

the rulemaking record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you request that we withhold your name and/or address, state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. 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.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Cooperative Agreements

OMB Control Number: OMB 1010-0087

Bureau Form Number: n/a

Abstract: The Department of the Interior (DOI) is responsible for matters relevant to mineral resource development on Federal and Indian Lands and the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) is responsible for managing the production of minerals from Federal and Indian Lands and the OCS; for collecting royalties from lessees who produce minerals; and for distributing the funds collected in accordance with applicable laws. The Secretary also has an Indian trust

responsibility to manage Indian lands and seek advice and information from Indian beneficiaries. We perform the royalty management functions and assist the Secretary in carrying out DOI's Indian trust responsibility.

States and Tribes wishing to do royalty audits in cooperation with MMS must submit a written request for consideration and application to enter into a cooperative agreement, signed by the governor, Tribal chairman, or other appropriate official. The request must outline the activities to be undertaken and present evidence that the States and Tribes can meet the standards established by the Secretary for the activities to be conducted. After the application is accepted and a cooperative agreement is in effect, the States and Tribes submit an annual work plan and budget, and quarterly reimbursement vouchers.

No proprietary data will be collected; there are no questions of a sensitive nature; and responses to this information collection are voluntary.

Frequency: On occasion, monthly, quarterly, and annually

Estimated Number and Description of Respondents: 10 states and 7 Indian tribes

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden:
1,224 hours

Reporting/Recordkeeping Requirements	Frequency	Number of Respondents	Burden Hours	Annual Burden Hours
Annual Work plans & budgets, voucher preparation, recordkeeping	Monthly Quarterly Annually	7 Indian Tribes & 10 States	72	1,224

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost"

Burden: n/a

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.

We published a Federal Register notice on December 3, 1999, 64 FR 67931, soliciting public comments on this information collection. The comment period was opened for 60 days, and no

comments were received.

This Federal Register notice opens a second public comment period, for 30 days, on this information collection. After this comment period closes, OMB will decide to either approve or disapprove this ICR. Therefore, for your comments to receive consideration, submit them on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 provides that an agency shall not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

MMS Information Collection Clearance Officer: Jo Ann

Lauterbach, (202) 208-7744

Date

Lucy Querques Denett
Associate Director
for Royalty Management