



United States Department of the Interior



MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Royalty Management Program
P.O. Box 25165
Denver, Colorado 80225-0165

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

MMS/DAD-A
MS 3600

NOV 15 1993

Dear Sir or Madam:

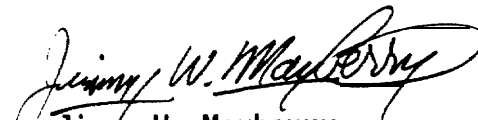
On June 18, 1993, an order was issued by the Assistant Secretary - Land and Minerals Management, United States Department of the Interior, to all royalty payors of record to complete and return the special report relative to any contract settlements the company entered into since January 1, 1980, affecting Federal or Indian oil and gas leases. In addition, a responsible officer of the company must submit an affidavit certifying either that the company was not a party to any contract settlement during the period beginning January 1, 1980, or that the information given in the special report is correct.

Under the terms of the original order, payors had 45 days from their date of receipt to comply with the subject order. Many payors requested more time to gather the information needed to respond to the order. Also, procedural motions in an action were brought by producer associations in the Northern District of West Virginia seeking to enjoin the Government from requiring the special report identified in the order, Independent Petroleum Association of America, et al. v. Babbitt, Civil No. 93-0112-E (N.D.W.V.). Because of preliminary hearings, compliance with the order was extended to October 15, 1993, and again to November 15, 1993. Since additional court hearings are being scheduled in November and December 1993, I am authorizing a further extension of the time for compliance with the order until January 18, 1994, to provide the Contract Settlements Special Report and Affidavit. As specified previously, the required information should be mailed to:

Deputy Associate Director for Audit
Minerals Management Service
Royalty Management Program
P.O. Box 25165, Mail Stop 3600
Denver, CO 80225-0165

If you have any questions, please call Kenneth M. Moyers of the Minerals Management Service at (303) 231-3185.

Sincerely,


Jimmy W. Mayberry
Deputy Associate Director
for Audit