

**Bureau of Land Management, Interior**

**§ 3210.20**

that would qualify as diligent exploration are geochemical surveys, heat flow measurement, core drilling or drilling of test wells.

**§ 3210.14 How do I meet the diligent exploration requirement?**

(a) During the first five years of the primary term, you only need to pay your rents. If you make efforts during these first five years that would qualify as diligent exploration expenditures, and we approve them as such during those five years, we will count them toward the requirements of future years.

(b) To qualify as diligent exploration expenditures in lease years six through ten, you must make expenditures equal to the minimum amounts listed in the following table. We will apply approved expenditures which exceed the minimum in any one year to subsequent years.

Lease year	Expenditure per acre
6 .....	\$4
7 .....	6
8 .....	8
9 .....	10
10 .....	12

(c) To give you credit for your expenditures, we must receive your report no later than 60 days after the end of the lease year in which you made the expenditures. You must include the following information in your report:

- (1) The types of operations conducted;
- (2) The location of the operations;
- (3) When the operations occurred;
- (4) The amount of money spent conducting those operations; and
- (5) all geologic information obtained from your operations.

**§ 3210.15 Can I do something instead of performing diligent exploration?**

If you choose not to conduct diligent exploration, or if your total expenditures do not fully meet the requirement for any lease year, you may still meet the diligent exploration requirement for that year by paying an additional rent of \$3 per acre or fraction of an acre. If you choose this option, you must send your payment to MMS before the end of the lease year.

**§ 3210.16 What happens if I do not meet the diligent exploration requirement or pay the additional rent?**

BLM will cancel your lease.

**§ 3210.17 Can someone lease or locate other minerals on the same lands as my geothermal lease?**

Yes. The United States reserves the ownership of and the right to extract helium, oil and hydrocarbon gas from all geothermal steam and associated geothermal resources. In addition, BLM allows mineral leasing or location on the same lands that are leased for geothermal resources, provided that operations under the mineral leasing or mining laws do not unreasonably interfere with or endanger your geothermal operations.

**§ 3210.18 May BLM readjust the terms and conditions in my lease?**

Yes, we may readjust the terms and conditions of your lease regarding stipulations and surface disturbance requirements. We may do this 10 years after you begin production from your lease, and at not less than 10-year intervals thereafter. If another Federal agency manages the lands' surface, we will ask that agency to review the related terms and conditions and propose any readjustments. Once BLM and the surface managing agency reach agreement, we will apply the readjustments to your lease.

**§ 3210.19 How will BLM readjust the terms and conditions in my lease?**

(a) We will give you a written proposal to adjust the terms and conditions of your lease. You will have 30 days after you receive the proposal to object in writing to the new terms or relinquish your lease. If you do not do this, these new terms will become part of your lease. If you do object in writing, we will issue a final decision on the new terms and conditions.

(b) BLM will set the date that your new terms and conditions become effective.

**§ 3210.20 May BLM readjust the rental and royalty rates in my lease?**

(a) We may readjust your lease rental and royalty rates at not less than 20-