

## Minerals Management Service, Interior

## § 228.6

of the termination on all affected parties.

### § 227.805 How may a State obtain a new delegation agreement after termination?

After your delegation agreement is terminated, you may apply again for delegation by beginning with the proposal process under this part.

## PART 228—COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES WITH STATES AND INDIAN TRIBES

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AUTHORITY: Sec. 202, Pub. L. 97-451, 96 Stat. 2457 (30 U.S.C. 1732).

SOURCE: 49 FR 37348, Sept. 21, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—General Provisions

#### § 228.1 Purpose.

It is the purpose of cooperative agreements to effectively utilize the capabilities of the States and Indian tribes in developing and maintaining an efficient and effective Federal royalty management system as indicated at 30 U.S.C. 1701.

#### § 228.2 Policy.

It shall be the policy of DOI to enter into cooperative agreements with States and Indian tribes to carry out

audits and related investigations and enforcement actions whenever a State or tribe initiates a request to enter into an agreement and a finding is made that a State or tribe has the ability to carry out cooperative activities in a timely and efficient manner.

#### § 228.3 Limitation on applicability.

As of the effective date of this rule, September 11, 1997, this part does not apply to Federal lands.

[62 FR 43091, Aug. 12, 1997]

#### § 228.4 Authority.

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with States and Indian tribes (30 U.S.C. 1732) to share oil or gas royalty management information, and to carry out auditing and related investigation or enforcement activities in cooperation with the Secretary.

#### § 228.5 Delegation of authority.

(a) Authority to enter into cooperative agreements to carry out audit and related investigation and enforcement activities with State and tribal governments has been delegated to the Director of the Minerals Management Service (MMS).

(b) Authority to enter into cooperative agreements with State and tribal governments to carry out inspection and related investigation and enforcement activities has been delegated to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and is not covered by this part.

(c) The entry into a cooperative agreement with either MMS or BLM will not affect the ability of a State or Indian tribe to choose to enter into such an agreement with the other agency. A State may enter into a delegation agreement (30 U.S.C. 1735) with MMS to perform certain functions without affecting its ability to enter into a cooperative agreement with either MMS or BLM, or both, to cooperate in the performance of those functions which are not delegated in this part.

#### § 228.6 Definitions.

For the purposes of this part, terms shall have the same meaning as in 30

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U.S.C. 1702. In addition, the following definition shall apply:

*Audit* means an examination of the financial accounting and lease related records of the lessee and other interest holders, who by lease or contract pay royalties or are obligated to pay royalties, rents, bonuses or other payments on Federal or Indian leases. An examination is to be conducted in accordance with generally accepted audit standards as adopted by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Activities to be examined which are considered to be an audit function include reconciliation of lease accounts under the Royalty Accounting System; records of lease activities related to Federal leases located within the boundaries of the State entering into a cooperative agreement; records of lease activities related to leases located on Indian lands, and the review and resolution of exceptions processed by the official accounting systems for royalty reporters and payors maintained by the MMS.

[49 FR 37348, Sept. 21, 1984, as amended at 67 FR 19112, Apr. 18, 2002]

### § 228.10 Information collection.

(a) The information collection requirements contained in this part have been approved by OMB under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* and assigned OMB Clearance Number 1010-0087. The information collected will be used to prepare a cooperative agreement with a State or Indian tribe wishing to perform royalty audits. The information should be submitted voluntarily in order to enter into a cooperative agreement authorized by 30 U.S.C. 1732.

(b) Public reporting burden is estimated to average 136 hours for the preparation of the original request for consideration and application to enter into a cooperative agreement. Subsequent requests for renewal of the agreement may require about 40 hours for the preparation of an annual budget and work plan, and an estimated 8 hours per quarter for preparation of a reimbursement voucher and an audit progress report. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing burden, to the Information Col-

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lection Clearance Officer, Minerals Management Service, 381 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia 22070; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project 1010-0087, Washington, DC 20503.

[57 FR 41868, Sept. 14, 1992, as amended at 58 FR 64903, Dec. 10, 1993]

### Subpart B—Oil and Gas, General [Reserved]

### Subpart C—Oil and Gas, Onshore

#### § 228.100 Entering into an agreement.

(a) A State or Indian tribe may request the Department to enter into a cooperative agreement by sending a letter from the governor, tribal chairman, or other appropriate official with delegation authority, to the Director of MMS.

(b) The request for an agreement shall be in a format prescribed by MMS and should include at a minimum the following information:

(1) Type of eligible activities to be undertaken.

(2) Proposed term of the agreement.

(3) Evidence that the State or Indian tribe meets, or can meet by the time the agreement is in effect, the standards established by the Secretary for the types of activities to be conducted under the terms of the agreement.

(4) If the State is proposing to undertake activities on Indian lands located within the State, a resolution from the appropriate tribal council indicating their agreement to delegate to the State responsibilities under the terms of the cooperative agreement for activities to be conducted on tribal or allotted land.

(c) The eligible activities to be conducted under the terms of a cooperative agreement may be funded or unfunded by the Department. See § 228.105 of this subpart for funding of cooperative agreements.

[49 FR 37348, Sept. 21, 1984, as amended at 56 FR 10512, Mar. 13, 1991]

#### § 228.101 Terms of agreement.

(a) Agreements entered into under this part shall be valid for a period of

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3 years and shall be renewable or additional consecutive 3-year periods upon request of the State or Indian tribe which is a party to the agreement.

(b) An agreement may be terminated at any time by mutual agreement and upon any terms and conditions as agreed upon by the parties.

(c) A State or Indian tribe may unilaterally terminate an agreement by giving a 120-day written notice of intent to terminate.

(d) The MMS may commence termination of an agreement by giving a 120-day written notice of intent to terminate. MMS shall provide the State or Indian tribe with the reasons for the proposed termination in writing if the termination is proposed because of alleged deficiencies by the State or Indian tribe in carrying out the provisions of the agreement. The State or Indian tribe will be given 60 days to respond to the notice of deficiencies and to provide a plan for correction of those deficiencies. No final action on termination shall be taken until any submission of the State or Indian tribe provided within the above prescribed 60 days has been reviewed by MMS for content or merit.

(e) Termination of a cooperative agreement shall not bar a later request by a State or Indian tribe to enter into a subsequent cooperative agreement.

### § 228.102 Establishment of standards.

The MMS, after consultation with States and Indian tribes, shall establish standards for carrying out the activities under the provisions of this part. The standards will be incorporated into the agreement and shall be no more stringent than those applicable to similar activities of the MMS. The States and Indian tribes shall coordinate their planned auditing activities with MMS. Where an MMS audit team is permanently assigned to a lessee/payor, contact by State and Indian tribal auditors with the lessee/payor shall be through the MMS auditor in residence.

### § 228.103 Maintenance of records.

(a) The State or Indian tribe entering into a cooperative agreement under this part must retain all records, reports, working papers, and any backup

materials for a period specified by MMS. All records and support materials must be available for inspection and review by appropriate personnel of the Department including the Office of the Inspector General.

(b) The State or Indian tribe shall maintain all books and records as may be necessary to assure compliance with the provisions of chapter 1, 48 CFR 31.107 and 48 CFR subpart 31.6 (Contracts with State, local, and federally recognized Indian tribal Governments).

[56 FR 10512, Mar. 13, 1991]

### § 228.104 Availability of information.

(a) Under the provisions of this part, information necessary to carry out the activities authorized under the terms of a cooperative agreement will be provided by DOI to the States and Indian tribes entering into such agreements. The information will consist of data provided from all relevant sources on a lease level basis for leases located within the boundaries of the State or Indian tribe which has entered into the agreement. This information will include any records or data held by the lessee or other person that have not been submitted to MMS, but that affect Federal lease interests and could be required to be submitted under the lease terms or Federal regulations.

(b) None of the provisions of this subpart should be construed as limiting information already being provided to Indian tribes and allottees regarding their lease interests.

(c) Information will be provided by MMS on a monthly basis and will include data on royalties, rents, and bonuses collected on the lease, volumes produced, sales made, value of products disposed of as a sale and used as a basis for royalty calculation, and other information necessary to allow the State or tribe to carry out its responsibilities under the cooperative agreement.

(d) Proprietary data that is made available to a State or tribe under provisions of 30 U.S.C. 1733 shall be subject to the constraints of 18 U.S.C. 1905. To receive proprietary data, the State or tribe must—

(1) Demonstrate what audit, investigation, or litigation under provisions of 30 U.S.C. 1734 is planned for or underway for which this data is essential;

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(2) Demonstrate why this particular data is necessary; and

(3) Agree to safeguard proprietary data as provided.

### § 228.105 Funding of cooperative agreements.

(a)(1) The Department may, under the terms of the cooperative agreement, reimburse the State or Indian tribe up to 100 percent of the costs of eligible activities. Eligible activities will be agreed upon annually upon the submission and approval of a workplan and funding requirement.

(2) A cooperative agreement may be entered into with a State or Indian tribe, upon request, without a requirement for reimbursement of costs by the Department.

(b) All cooperative agreements under this part are subject to annual funding and the availability of appropriations specifically designated for the purpose of this part.

(c) The State or Indian tribe shall submit a voucher for reimbursement of eligible costs incurred within 30 days of the end of each calendar quarter. The State or Indian tribe must provide the Department a summary of costs incurred, for which the State or Indian tribe is seeking reimbursement, with the voucher.

[49 FR 37348, Sept. 21, 1984, as amended at 56 FR 10512, Mar. 13, 1991]

### § 228.107 Eligible cost of activities.

(a) If a cooperative agreement provides for Federal funding, only costs directly associated with eligible activities undertaken by the State or Indian tribe under the terms of a cooperative agreement will be eligible for reimbursement. Costs of services or activities which cannot be directly related to the support of activities specified in the agreement will not be eligible for Federal funding or for inclusion in the State's share or in the Indian tribe's share of funding that may be established in the agreement.

(b) Eligible costs are the cost of salaries and benefits associated with technical, support, and clerical personnel engaged in eligible activities; direct cost of travel, rentals, and other normal administrative activities in direct support of the project or projects; basic

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and specialized training for State and tribal participants; and cost of any contractual services which can be shown to be in direct support of the activities covered by the agreement. Each cooperative agreement shall contain detailed schedules identifying those activities and costs which qualify for funding and the procedures, timing, and mechanics for implementing Federal funding.

[49 FR 37348, Sept. 21, 1984, as amended at 56 FR 10512, Mar. 13, 1991]

### § 228.108 Deduction of civil penalties accruing to the State or tribe from the Federal share of a cooperative agreement.

As provided at 30 U.S.C. 1736, 50 percent of any civil penalty collected as a result of activities under a cooperative agreement will be shared with the State or Indian tribe performing the cooperative agreement; however, the amount of the civil penalty shared will be deducted from any Federal funding owed under that cooperative agreement. MMS shall maintain records of civil penalties collected and distributed to the States and tribes involved in cooperative agreements. Each quarterly payment of the Federal share of a cooperative agreement will be reduced by the amount of the civil penalties paid to the State or tribe during the prior quarter.

## PART 229—DELEGATION TO STATES

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