Minerals Management Service, Interior § 250.211

(b) Geological and high-resolution geophysical, geotechnical, archaeological, biological, physical oceanographic, meteorological, socio-economic, or other surveys; or

(c) Studies that model potential oil and hazardous substance spills, drilling muds and cuttings discharges, projected air emissions, or potential hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) releases.

§ 250.208 If I conduct ancillary activities, what notices must I provide?

At least 30 calendar days before you conduct any G&G exploration or development G&G activity (see § 250.207(a)), you must notify the Regional Supervisor in writing.

(a) When you prepare the notice, you must:

(1) Sign and date the notice;

(2) Provide the names of the vessel, its operator, and the person(s) in charge; the specific type(s) of operations you will conduct; and the instrumentation/techniques and vessel navigation system you will use;

(3) Provide expected start and completion dates and the location of the activity; and

(4) Describe the potential adverse environmental effects of the proposed activity and any mitigation to eliminate or minimize these effects on the marine, coastal, and human environment.

(b) The Regional Supervisor may require you to:

(1) Give written notice to MMS at least 15 calendar days before you conduct any other ancillary activity (see § 250.207(b) and (c)) in addition to those listed in § 250.207(a); and

(2) Notify other users of the OCS before you conduct any ancillary activity.

§ 250.209 What is the MMS review process for the notice?

The Regional Supervisor will review any notice required under § 250.208(a) and (b)(1) to ensure that your ancillary activity complies with the performance standards listed in § 250.202(a), (b), (d), and (e). The Regional Supervisor may notify you that your ancillary activity does not comply with those standards. In such a case, the Regional Supervisor will require you to submit an EP, DPP, or DOCD and you may not start your ancillary activity until the Regional Supervisor approves the EP, DPP, or DOCD.

§ 250.210 If I conduct ancillary activities, what reporting and data/information retention requirements must I satisfy?

(a) Reporting. The Regional Supervisor may require you to prepare and submit reports that summarize and analyze data or information obtained or derived from your ancillary activities. When applicable, MMS will protect and disclose the data and information in these reports in accordance with § 250.197(b).

(b) Data and information retention. You must retain copies of all original data and information, including navigation data, obtained or derived from your G&G explorations and development G&G activities (see § 250.207(a)), including any such data and information you obtained from previous lesseholders or unit operators. You must submit such data and information to MMS for inspection and possible retention upon request at any time before lease or unit termination. When applicable, MMS will protect and disclose such submitted data and information in accordance with § 250.197(b).

§ 250.211 What must the EP include?

Your EP must include the following:

(a) Description, objectives, and schedule. A description, discussion of the objectives, and tentative schedule (from start to completion) of the exploration activities that you propose to undertake. Examples of exploration activities include exploration drilling, well test flaring, installing a well protection structure, and temporary well abandonment.

(b) Location. A map showing the surface location and water depth of each proposed well and the locations of all associated drilling unit anchors.

(c) Drilling unit. A description of the drilling unit and associated equipment you will use to conduct your proposed exploration activities, including a brief description of its important safety and
§ 250.212 What information must accompany the EP?

The following information must accompany your EP:

(a) General information required by § 250.213;

(b) Geological and geophysical (G&G) information required by § 250.214;

(c) Hydrogen sulfide information required by § 250.215;

(d) Biological, physical, and socio-economic information required by § 250.216;

(e) Solid and liquid wastes and discharges information and cooling water intake information required by § 250.217;

(f) Air emissions information required by § 250.218;

(g) Oil and hazardous substance spills information required by § 250.219;

(h) Alaska planning information required by § 250.220;

(i) Environmental monitoring information required by § 250.221;

(j) Lease stipulations information required by § 250.222;

(k) Mitigation measures information required by § 250.223;

(l) Support vessels and aircraft information required by § 250.224;

(m) Onshore support facilities information required by § 250.225;

(n) Coastal zone management information required by § 250.226;

(o) Environmental impact analysis information required by § 250.227; and

(p) Administrative information required by § 250.228.

§ 250.213 What general information must accompany the EP?

The following general information must accompany your EP:

(a) Applications and permits. A listing, including filing or approval status, of the Federal, State, and local application approvals or permits you must obtain to conduct your proposed exploration activities.

(b) Drilling fluids. A table showing the projected amount, discharge rate, and chemical constituents for each type (i.e., water-based, oil-based, synthetic-based) of drilling fluid you plan to use to drill your proposed exploration wells.

(c) Chemical products. A table showing the name and brief description, quantities to be stored, storage method, and rates of usage of the chemical products you will use to conduct your proposed exploration activities. List only those chemical products you will store or use in quantities greater than the amounts defined as Reportable Quantities in 40 CFR part 302, or amounts specified by the Regional Supervisor.

(d) New or unusual technology. A description and discussion of any new or unusual technology (see definition under § 250.200) you will use to carry out your proposed exploration activities. In the public information copies of your EP, you may exclude any proprietary information from this description. In that case, include a brief discussion of the general subject matter of the omitted information. If you will not use any new or unusual technology to carry out your proposed exploration activities, include a statement so indicating.

(e) Bonds, oil spill financial responsibility, and well control statements. Statements attesting that:

(1) The activities and facilities proposed in your EP are or will be covered by an appropriate bond under 30 CFR part 256, subpart I;

(2) You have demonstrated or will demonstrate oil spill financial responsibility for facilities proposed in your EP according to 30 CFR part 253; and

(3) You have or will have the financial capability to drill a relief well and conduct other emergency well control operations.

(f) Suspensions of operations. A brief discussion of any suspensions of operations that you anticipate may be necessary in the course of conducting your activities under the EP.

(g) Blowout scenario. A scenario for the potential blowout of the proposed well in your EP that you expect will

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