

Minerals Management Service, Interior

§ 250.233

REVIEW AND DECISION PROCESS FOR THE EP

§ 250.231 After receiving the EP, what will MMS do?

(a) *Determine whether deemed submitted.* Within 15 working days after receiving your proposed EP and its accompanying information, the Regional Supervisor will review your submission and deem your EP submitted if:

(1) The submitted information, including the information that must accompany the EP (refer to the list in § 250.212), fulfills requirements and is sufficiently accurate;

(2) You have provided all needed additional information (see § 250.201(b)); and

(3) You have provided the required number of copies (see § 250.206(a)).

(b) *Identify problems and deficiencies.* If the Regional Supervisor determines that you have not met one or more of the conditions in paragraph (a) of this section, the Regional Supervisor will notify you of the problem or deficiency within 15 working days after the Regional Supervisor receives your EP and its accompanying information. The Regional Supervisor will not deem your EP submitted until you have corrected all problems or deficiencies identified in the notice.

(c) *Deemed submitted notification.* The Regional Supervisor will notify you when the EP is deemed submitted.

§ 250.232 What actions will MMS take after the EP is deemed submitted?

(a) *State and CZMA consistency reviews.* Within 2 working days after deeming your EP submitted under § 250.231, the Regional Supervisor will use received mail or alternative method to send a public information copy of the EP and its accompanying information to the following:

(1) *The Governor of each affected State.* The Governor has 21 calendar days after receiving your deemed-submitted EP to submit comments. The Regional Supervisor will not consider comments received after the deadline.

(2) *The CZMA agency of each affected State.* The CZMA consistency review period under section 307(c)(3)(B)(ii) of the CZMA (16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)(B)(ii)) and 15 CFR 930.78 begins when the State's CZMA agency receives a copy of your deemed-submitted EP, consistency certification, and required necessary data and information (see 15 CFR 930.77(a)(1)).

(b) *MMS compliance review.* The Regional Supervisor will review the exploration activities described in your proposed EP to ensure that they conform to the performance standards in § 250.202.

(c) *MMS environmental impact evaluation.* The Regional Supervisor will evaluate the environmental impacts of the activities described in your proposed EP and prepare environmental documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and the implementing regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508).

(d) *Amendments.* During the review of your proposed EP, the Regional Supervisor may require you, or you may elect, to change your EP. If you elect to amend your EP, the Regional Supervisor may determine that your EP, as amended, is subject to the requirements of § 250.231.

[70 FR 51501, Aug. 30, 2005, as amended at 72 FR 25200, May 4, 2007]

§ 250.233 What decisions will MMS make on the EP and within what timeframe?

(a) *Timeline.* The Regional Supervisor will take one of the actions shown in the table in paragraph (b) of this section within 30 calendar days after the Regional Supervisor deems your EP submitted under § 250.231, or receives the last amendment to your proposed EP, whichever occurs later.

(b) *MMS decision.* By the deadline in paragraph (a) of this section, the Regional Supervisor will take one of the following actions:

§ 250.234**30 CFR Ch. II (7-1-10 Edition)**

The regional supervisor will . . .	If . . .	And then . . .
(1) Approve your EP	It complies with all applicable requirements	The Regional Supervisor will notify you in writing of the decision and may require you to meet certain conditions, including those to provide monitoring information.
(2) Require you to modify your proposed EP.	The Regional Supervisor finds that it is inconsistent with the lease, the Act, the regulations prescribed under the Act, or other Federal laws.	The Regional Supervisor will notify you in writing of the decision and describe the modifications you must make to your proposed EP to ensure it complies with all applicable requirements.
(3) Disapprove your EP ..	Your proposed activities would probably cause serious harm or damage to life (including fish or other aquatic life); property; any mineral (in areas leased or not leased); the national security or defense; or the marine, coastal, or human environment; and you cannot modify your proposed activities to avoid such condition(s).	<p>(i) The Regional Supervisor will notify you in writing of the decision and describe the reason(s) for disapproving your EP.</p> <p>(ii) MMS may cancel your lease and compensate you under 43 U.S.C. 1334(a)(2)(C) and the implementing regulations in §§ 250.182, 250.184, and 250.185 and 30 CFR 256.77.</p>

[70 FR 51501, Aug. 30, 2005, as amended at 74 FR 46908, Sept. 14, 2009]

§ 250.234 How do I submit a modified EP or resubmit a disapproved EP, and when will MMS make a decision?

(a) *Modified EP.* If the Regional Supervisor requires you to modify your proposed EP under § 250.233(b)(2), you must submit the modification(s) to the Regional Supervisor in the same manner as for a new EP. You need submit only information related to the proposed modification(s).

(b) *Resubmitted EP.* If the Regional Supervisor disapproves your EP under § 250.233(b)(3), you may resubmit the disapproved EP if there is a change in the conditions that were the basis of its disapproval.

(c) *MMS review and timeframe.* The Regional Supervisor will use the performance standards in § 250.202 to either approve, require you to further modify, or disapprove your modified or resubmitted EP. The Regional Supervisor will make a decision within 30 calendar days after the Regional Supervisor deems your modified or resubmitted EP to be submitted, or receives the last amendment to your modified or resubmitted EP, whichever occurs later.

§ 250.235 If a State objects to the EP's coastal zone consistency certification, what can I do?

If an affected State objects to the coastal zone consistency certification accompanying your proposed EP within the timeframe prescribed in

§ 250.233(a) or § 250.234(c), you may do one of the following:

(a) *Amend your EP.* Amend your EP to accommodate the State's objection and submit the amendment to the Regional Supervisor for approval. The amendment needs to only address information related to the State's objection.

(b) *Appeal.* Appeal the State's objection to the Secretary of Commerce using the procedures in 15 CFR part 930, subpart H. The Secretary of Commerce will either:

(1) Grant your appeal by finding, under section 307(c)(3)(B)(iii) of the CZMA (16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)(B)(iii)), that each activity described in detail in your EP is consistent with the objectives of the CZMA, or is otherwise necessary in the interest of national security; or

(2) Deny your appeal, in which case you may amend your EP as described in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) *Withdraw your EP.* Withdraw your EP if you decide not to conduct your proposed exploration activities.

[70 FR 51501, Aug. 30, 2005; 71 FR 12438, Mar. 10, 2006]

CONTENTS OF DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION PLANS (DPP) AND DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS COORDINATION DOCUMENTS (DOCD)

§ 250.241 What must the DPP or DOCD include?

Your DPP or DOCD must include the following: