§ 281.4 Qualifications of lessees.

(a) In accordance with section 8(k) of the Act, leases shall be awarded only to qualified persons offering the highest cash bonus bid.

(b) Mineral leases issued pursuant to section 8 of the Act may be held only by:

1. Citizens and nationals of the United States;
2. Aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States as defined in 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20);
3. Private, public, or municipal corporations organized under the laws of the United States or of any State or of the District of Columbia or territory thereof; or
4. Associations of such citizens, nationals, resident aliens, or private, public, or municipal corporations, States, or political subdivisions of States.

§ 281.5 False statements.

Under the provisions of 18 U.S.C. 1001, it is a crime punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment or a fine of $10,000, or both, for anyone knowingly and willfully to submit or cause to be submitted to any Agency of the United States any false or fraudulent statement(s) to any matters within the Agency’s jurisdiction.

§ 281.6 Appeals.

Any party adversely affected by a decision of an MMS official made pursuant to the provisions of this part shall have the right of appeal pursuant to part 290 of this title, except as provided otherwise in §281.21 of this part.

§ 281.7 Disclosure of information to the public.

The Secretary shall make data and information available to the public in accordance with the requirements and subject to the limitations of the Act, the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), and the implementing regulations (30 CFR parts 290 and 292 and 43 CFR part 2).