

## § 2884.15

- (b) The procedures for processing applications and monitoring grants;
- (c) Statutes and regulations relating to the right-of-way program; or
- (d) The IPD-GDP.

### **§ 2884.15 What is a Master Agreement (Processing Category 5) and what information must I provide to BLM when I request one?**

(a) A Master Agreement (Processing Category 5) is a written agreement covering processing and monitoring fees (see § 2885.23 of this part) negotiated between BLM and you that involves multiple BLM grant or TUP approvals for projects within a defined geographic area.

(b) Your request for a Master Agreement must:

- (1) Describe the geographic area covered by the Agreement and the scope of the activity you plan;
- (2) Include a preliminary work plan. This plan must state what work you must do and what work BLM must do to process your application. Both parties must periodically update the work plan, as specified in the Agreement, and mutually agree to the changes;
- (3) Contain a preliminary cost estimate and a timetable for processing the application and completing the project;
- (4) State whether you want the Agreement to apply to future applications in the same geographic area that are not part of the same project(s); and
- (5) Contain any other relevant information that BLM needs to process the application.

### **§ 2884.16 What provisions do Master Agreements contain and what are their limitations?**

(a) A Master Agreement:

- (1) Specifies that you must comply with all applicable laws and regulations;
- (2) Describes the work you will do and the work BLM will do to process the application;
- (3) Describes the method of periodic billing, payment, and auditing;
- (4) Describes the processes, studies, or evaluations you will pay for;
- (5) Explains how BLM will monitor the grant and how BLM will recover monitoring costs;

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(6) Contains provisions allowing for periodic review and updating, if required;

(7) Contains specific conditions for terminating the Agreement; and

(8) Contains any other provisions BLM considers necessary.

(b) BLM will not enter into any Agreement that is not in the public interest.

### **§ 2884.17 How will BLM process my Processing Category 6 application?**

(a) For Processing Category 6 applications, you and BLM must enter into a written agreement that describes how BLM will process your application. The final agreement consists of a work plan and a financial plan.

(b) In processing your application, BLM will:

- (1) Determine the issues subject to analysis under NEPA;
- (2) Prepare a preliminary work plan;
- (3) Develop a preliminary financial plan, which estimates the actual costs of processing your application and monitoring your project;
- (4) Discuss with you:
  - (i) The preliminary plans and data;
  - (ii) The availability of funds and personnel;
  - (iii) Your options for the timing of processing and monitoring fee payments; and
  - (iv) Financial information you must submit; and
- (5) Complete final scoping and develop final work and financial plans which reflect any work you have agreed to do. BLM will also present you with the final estimate of the costs you must reimburse the United States, including the cost for monitoring the project.

(c) BLM retains the option to prepare any environmental documents related to your application. If BLM allows you to prepare any environmental documents and conduct any studies that BLM needs to process your application, you must do the work following BLM standards. For this purpose, you and BLM may enter into a written agreement. BLM will make the final determinations and conclusions arising from such work.

(d) BLM will periodically, as stated in the agreement, estimate processing