§ 3103.4–4 Suspension of operations and/or production.

(a) A suspension of all operations and production may be directed or consented to by the authorized officer only in the interest of conservation of natural resources. A suspension of operations only or a suspension of production only may be directed or consented to by the authorized officer in cases where the lessee is prevented from operating on the lease or producing from the lease, despite the exercise of due care and diligence, by reason of force majeure, that is, by matters beyond the reasonable control of the lessee. Applications for any suspension shall be filed in the proper BLM office. Complete information showing the necessity of such relief shall be furnished.

(b) The term of any lease shall be extended by adding thereto the period of the suspension, and no lease shall be deemed to expire during any suspension.

(c) A suspension shall take effect as of the time specified in the direction or consent of the authorized officer, in accordance with the provisions of §3165.1 of this title.

(d) Rental and minimum royalty payments shall be suspended during any period of suspension of all operations and production directed or consented to by the authorized officer beginning with the first day of the lease month in which the suspension of all operations and production becomes effective, or if the suspension of all operations and production becomes effective on any date other than the first day of a lease month, beginning with the first day of the lease month following such effective date. Rental and minimum royalty