

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION**

NTL No. NTL No. 2009-G15

Effective Date: July 10, 2009

Expiration Date: July 9, 2014

NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL, GAS, AND SULPHUR  
LEASES AND PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY HOLDERS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL  
SHELF, GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION

**Digital Pipeline Location Data**

This Notice to Lessees and Operators and Pipeline Right-of-way Holders (NTL) supersedes NTL No. 98-09, effective August 10, 1998. It has been rewritten in plain language. Changes include specifying that you submit pipeline location data on compact disks (CD) in lieu of 3½-inch diskettes, revoking the process that encouraged you to submit “as-built” location data before you submitted a construction report, and inserting a guidance document statement.

In accordance with 30 CFR 250.1007(a)(1) and 250.1007(b), you must provide plats that show the proposed routes and other pertinent information with all applications for new lease term and right-of-way (ROW) pipelines and applications to modify the routes of existing lease term and ROW pipelines. In addition, you must provide “as-built” pipeline location plats with the construction reports required by 30 CFR 250.1008(b).

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (GOMR) has developed a mapping system that uses information on the required plats to provide up-to-date and accurate pipeline location information to the oil and gas industry and to the general public. To ensure accuracy and facilitate review and analysis, the MMS GOMR now uploads this pipeline location data into the mapping system digitally.

So that the MMS GOMR can accomplish this task, provide the required plat information on a CD and include it with each required pipeline application or construction report. The Appendix to this NTL outlines the fixed format of the ASCII file for you to use in providing this information. For applications to modify the routes of existing pipelines, include digital location data for the entire pipeline segment, including the modified portion. Make sure that you include sufficient points to provide an accurate representation of the proposed route, including turns.

**Guidance Document Statement**

The MMS issues NTL's as guidance documents in accordance with 30 CFR 250.103 to clarify, supplement, and provide more detail about certain MMS regulatory requirements and to outline the information you provide in your various submittals. Under that authority, this NTL sets forth a policy on and an interpretation of a regulatory requirement that provides a clear and consistent approach to complying with that requirement. However, if you wish to use an alternate approach for compliance, you may do so, after you receive approval from the appropriate MMS office under 30 CFR 250.141.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement**

The information collection provisions of this notice are intended to provide clarification, description, or interpretation of requirements contained in 30 CFR 250, Subpart J. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements for these regulations and assigned OMB Control Number 1010-0050. This notice does not impose any additional information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**Contact**

Please direct any questions concerning this notice to Alex Alvarado by telephone at (504) 736-2547 or by e-mail at [alex.alvarado@mms.gov](mailto:alex.alvarado@mms.gov).

[original signed]

Lars T. Herbst  
Regional Director

Appendix

## APPENDIX

### Format for the MMS GOMR Digital Pipeline Location Data Files

The MMS GOMR pipeline mapping system uses an Oracle database to store digital pipeline location data. All points are in decimal degree latitude and longitude based on the North American Datum (NAD) of 1927. If you collect data as NAD 83, submit it as NAD 27 equivalents derived using NADCON software, version 2.0 or better. Longitude is always a negative number for the Gulf of Mexico. Use the following fixed ASCII file format to provide pipeline location data:

<i>Start Position</i>	<i>Length</i>	<i>Type Data</i>
1	7	MMS-assigned Pipeline Segment Number*
8	4	Sequence Number (Number of the point, starting with 1)
12	12.8	Latitude (Decimal Degrees)
24	13.8	Longitude (Decimal Degrees - Negative)
37	15	Point Description Code**
52	200	Remarks or Point Description***

\*For new proposed pipeline routes, leave ***MMS-assigned Pipeline Segment Number*** blank. The MMS GOMR Pipeline Section will assign the segment number when the pipeline application is received.

\*\*The ***Point Description Code*** is a code to indicate the general description of the location where the point is recorded. The following are acceptable values for the ***Point Description Code***:

<i>Code Value</i>	<i>Value Definition</i>
RISER	The point represents a riser.
CROSSING	The point represents a crossing pipeline.
TIE-IN	The point represents a subsea tie-in.
BLOCK LINE	The point represents a block boundary.
VALVE	The point represents a main-line or side-tap valve.
Blank Space	The point represents a non-significant data point.

\*\*\*Providing information for the ***Remarks or Point Description*** section is optional. You can use it to list any miscellaneous information you want to provide for the data point.