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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Operations; Annual List of Notices to Lessees and Operators (NTLs)

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public, industry, and other Government agencies of NTLs that are in effect as of January 15, 2001. It also officially rescinds several regional NTLs and one regional Letter to Lessees and Operators (LTL).

ADDRESSES: You may obtain copies of NTLs through our website at <http://www.mms.gov/ntls/> or by contacting the MMS National Office or the OCS Region that issued the NTL at the following addresses:

National Office:

Minerals Management Service, Engineering and Operations Division, 381 Elden Street, Herndon, Virginia 20170-4817, Attention: Ms. Alexis London; telephone (703) 787-1600.

Alaska OCS Region:

Minerals Management Service, 949 East 36th Avenue, Room 308, Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4363, Attention: Ms. Christine Huffaker; telephone (907) 271-6621.

Gulf of Mexico (GOM) OCS Region:

Minerals Management Service, 1201 Elmwood Park Blvd., New Orleans, Louisiana
70123-2394, Attention: Mr. Michael Dorner; telephone (504) 736-2599.

Pacific OCS Region:

Minerals Management Service, 770 Paseo Camarillo, Camarillo, California 93010-
6064, Attention: Ms. Freddie Mason; telephone (805) 389-7566.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexis London, Engineering and
Operations Division; telephone (703) 787-1600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MMS is responsible for oil and gas or
sulphur operations in the OCS to ensure operational safety and protection of the
environment. In addition to our regulations, under the authority of 30 CFR 250.103, we
issue NTLs to provide guidance and to further clarify, interpret, or describe regulatory
requirements on a national or regional basis.

In the past, we have also issued LTLs for this purpose or to communicate information
to OCS lessees and operators. Recently we have rescinded or revised most of the LTLs
and reissued them as NTLs. There are still a few active LTLs in the GOM OCS Region
that have not yet been superseded by NTLs or rescinded. Although not listed in this
Notice, please note that they will remain in effect until they are superseded or rescinded.
To obtain a list or copies of the active LTLs, please contact the GOM OCS Region.

For your convenience, the following table lists the current active NTLs issued by the
National Office and the OCS Regions. Therefore, if an NTL issued before January 15,
2001, is not listed, it is canceled and no longer in effect.

NTL Number	Effective Date	Title/Subject
Current Notices to Lessees and Operators Issued by the National Office		
96-7N*	12/10/96	OCS Civil Penalties Program (*Modified by 97-5N)
97-2N*	08/01/97	Well Naming and Numbering Standards (*Will be superseded 5/01/2001 by NTL 00-N07)
97-3N	08/01/97	OCS Program--Annual Performance Review
97-4N	09/01/97	Civil Penalties Program Annual Summary to be Published
97-5N*	10/07/97	OCS Civil Penalties Program Revised Assessment Matrix (*Modifies 96-7N)
98-1N	01/02/98	Interim Guidance for Applying Platform Design Criteria from American Petroleum Institute (API) Recommended Practice (RP) 2A, "Planning, Designing, and Constructing Fixed Offshore Platforms," 19 th Edition (8/1/91) and 20 th Edition (7/1/93) and its Supplement 1 (2/1/97)
98-4N	03/04/98	Interim Guidance for Applying "Simplified Fatigue Analysis" Procedure from API RP 2A
98-5N	04/01/98	Application and Audit Fees for Requests for Royalty Relief or Adjustment Under 30 CFR Part 203
98-12N	07/01/98	Determination of Pollution Inspection Frequencies for Unmanned Facilities
98-13N	07/01/98	Use of New or Alternative Technology and Procedures
98-18N	12/28/98	Supplemental Bond Procedures
98-18N Addendum 1	09/12/00	Additional Guidance for Third-Party Guarantees
99-N01	01/06/99	Guidelines for Oil Spill Financial Responsibility for Covered Facilities
99-N03	03/01/99	Performance Measures for OCS Operators & Form MMS-131
99-N04	03/05/99	Revised Guidelines for Royalty Relief Under 30 CFR Part 203
00-N03*	10/13/00	Clarification of 30 CFR 250, Subpart O—Well Control & Production Safety Training (*Rescission Date 10/15/2002)
00-N04*	09/15/01	Guidelines for Crane & Rigging Operations on Fixed Offshore OCS Facilities (*Rescission Date 04/01/2001)
00-N05	10/01/00	Conservation Information
00-N06	10/01/00	Deepwater Operations Plans
00-N07	05/01/01	Well Naming and Numbering Standards
00-N08*	12/21/00	Synthetic Moorings Workshop(*Rescission Date 01/30/2001)

NTL Number	Effective Date	Title/Subject
Current Notices to Lessees and Operators Issued by the Alaska OCS Region		
00-A01	01/27/00	Shallow Hazards Geophysical Survey & Evaluation for OCS Exploration and Development Drilling
00-A02	01/27/00	Shallow Hazards Geophysical Survey & Evaluation for OCS Pipeline Routes and Rights-of-Way
00-A03	01/27/00	Archaeological Survey & Evaluation for OCS Exploration and Development Activities
Current Notices to Lessees and Operators Issued by the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region		
96-08	11/25/96	Time Allowed for the Correction of Incidents of Noncompliance (INC=s) and for the Return of Notification of INC Forms
96-10	12/05/96	Air Emissions Information for Application for Accessory Platforms to Pipeline Rights-of-Way
97-06	03/01/97	Timely Submittal of Drilling Well Records in Accordance with 30 CFR 250.66 [Redesignated 30 CFR 250.416]
97-07	03/01/97	Revised Conditions of Approval to Drill, Sidetrack and/or Complete for Oil and Gas Production
97-16	08/01/97	Production Within 500 Feet of a Unit or Lease Line
97-17	08/01/97	Containment Requirements for Bolted or Welded Stock Tanks
97-18	08/18/97	Timely Submittal of Deepwater Royalty Relief Applications
98-05	07/01/98	Confirmation of Deepwater Royalty Relief for Leases Issued After November 28, 1995
98-06	08/10/98	Archaeological Requirements
98-09	08/10/98	Proposed and As-Built Pipeline Location Data
98-10	08/10/98	Best Available Control Technology (Sulphur Dioxide)
98-12	08/10/98	Implementation of Consistent Biological Stipulation Measures in the Central and Western Gulf of Mexico
98-13	08/10/98	Minimizing Oil and Gas Structures in the Gulf of Mexico
98-16	08/10/98	Hydrogen Sulfide (H ₂ S) Requirements
98-18	09/01/98	Change of Address for the Submittal of Certain Drilling Records in Accordance with 30 CFR 250.416
98-19	09/15/98	Temporary Abandonment of Wells and Maintenance, Protection and Removal of Underwater Casing Stubs
98-20	09/15/98	Shallow Hazards Requirements
98-23	10/15/98	Interim Reporting Requirements for 30 CFR 250, Subpart K, Oil and Gas Production Rates

NTL Number	Effective Date	Title/Subject
98-24	10/15/98	Rate Control Section Address, Office Hours, and Telephone Procedures
98-26	11/30/98	Minimum Interim Requirements for Site Clearance (and Verification) of Abandoned Oil and Gas Structures in the Gulf of Mexico
98-27	12/01/98	Guidelines for Eliminating Trash and Debris Resulting from Gulf of Mexico OCS Operations
98-29	12/18/98	Announcement of Project to Clean Up Historical Well Data
98-29 Addendum 1	03/15/99	Well Records for Information Corrected or Completed During Project to Clean Up Historical Well Data Exemption form Incidents of Non-compliance
98-29 Addendum 2	02/16/00	Wells (holes-in-ground) Without Assigned MMS API Numbers
98-30	03/01/99	Regional Oil Spill Response Plans
99-G01	02/12/99	Deepwater Emergency Well Control Operations
99-G05	04/26/99	Submittal of Documents for Platforms and Structures
99-G06	05/01/99	Economic Assumptions for RSVP Deepwater Royalty Relief Model
99-G07	05/03/99	U.S. Air Force Communication Towers
99-G08	05/10/99	Removing Underwater Casing Stubs
99-G09	05/10/99	Location of Choke and Kill Lines on BOP Stacks
99-G10	05/11/99	Designated Safe Welding and Burning Areas on Rigs
99-G11	06/07/99	Approval of Acidizing Operations
99-G12	06/07/99	Increased Level II Underwater Structural Inspection Intervals
99-G15*	06/30/99	Production Activities Information Collection and Reporting (Western Gulf of Mexico) (*Rescission Date 1/31/2001)
99-G16	07/08/99	Live-Bottom Surveys and Reports
99-G17	07/08/99	North American Datum 83 Implementation Plan for the GOM
99-G19	09/07/99	Downhole Commingling Policies
99-G20	09/07/99	Downhole Commingling Applications
99-G21	09/13/99	Platform Removal Applications
99-G22	09/24/99	Guidelines for Subsea Disposal & Offshore Storage of Solid Wastes
00-G02	01/25/00	Deepwater Experimental Oil Release Study.

NTL Number	Effective Date	Title/Subject
00-G03	01/28/00	Functional Responsibilities of MMS Regulations
00-G04	01/28/00	Well Producibility Determinations
00-G06	02/04/00	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Systems
00-G07	02/22/00	Accidental Disconnect of Marine Drilling Risers
00-G08*	03/01/00	Drilling Windows, Eastern Gulf of Mexico (*Expires 3/1/2001)
00-G11	05/12/00	Pollution Inspection Intervals for Unmanned Facilities
00-G13	05/25/00	Production Safety Systems Requirements
00-G14	08/29/00	Contact with District Offices and the Pipeline section Outside Regular Work Hours
00-G15	09/06/00	Hurricane and Tropical Storm Evacuation and Production Curtailment Procedures
00-G16	09/07/00	Guidelines for General Lease Surety Bonds
00-G17	09/01/00	Suspension of Production/Operations Overview
00-G18*	11/21/00	Meteorological Data Collection and Reporting (Breton National Wildlife Refuge/Wilderness Area) (*Rescission Date 11/30/2001)
00-G19	11/21/00	Production Activities Information Collection and Reporting (Breton National Wildlife Refuge/Wilderness Area) (*Rescission Date 11/30/2001)
00-G20	12/6/00	Deepwater Chemosynthetic Communities
00-G21	12/26/00	Information Requirements for Exploration Plans and Development Operations Coordination Documents
00-G22	12/22/00	Subsalt Lease Term Extension
Current Notices to Lessees and Operators Issued by the Pacific OCS Region		
92-01	03/24/92	Warning Signs: Pipelines and Power Cables
98-01	03/05/98	Santa Maria District Office Phone Call Procedures and Hours
98-02	03/05/98	Camarillo District Office Phone Call Procedures and Hours
98-04	07/01/98	Gas Volume Statement Requirements
98-05	08/04/98	Archaeological Survey and Report Requirements
98-06	08/04/98	Change of Ownership/Operatorship of Leases and Pipelines
98-07	08/04/98	Helideck Closures
98-09	08/11/98	Hydrogen Sulfide (H ₂ S) Requirements
98-10	08/21/98	Liquid Royalty Measurement Facilities
98-11	08/31/98	Submission of Digitized Well Log Data on Magnetic Tape

NTL Number	Effective Date	Title/Subject
98-12	08/11/98	Guidelines for Shallow Hazards and Report Requirements for Exploration Drilling
98-13	08/11/98	Guidelines for Shallow Hazards and Report Requirements for OCS Development Operations
98-14	11/04/98	Cooperative Drilling Rig (Only Non-Producing Lease Operators)
99-P01	07/15/99	Oil Spill Response Plans
99-P04	11/04/99	Flaring and Venting Gas
99-P05	12/10/99	Decommissioning of Pacific OCS Facilities
00-P01	01/20/00	Standby Testing During Air Pollution Emergency Episodes
00-P02	04/17/00	Sustained Casing Pressure
00-P04	11/01/00	Biological Survey Criteria

Effective with the publication of this Notice, we are rescinding the following National NTL, two NTLs issued by the GOM OCS Region, and one LTL issued by the Pacific OCS Region:

- NTL 98-2N, Guidance Regarding API Specification 14A, “Specification for Subsurface Safety Valve Equipment,” Ninth Edition (7/1/94) and Supplement 1. This NTL is superseded by the final rule published December 8, 2000 (65 FR 76933).
- NTL 86-05, New Form for Designated Operators. This NTL has served its purpose and is no longer needed. The form MMS-1123 used to designate operators is available on the MMS website at: <http://www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/mmsforms/frmindx.html>.
- NTL 98-15, Time Allowed Between Lease Holding Operations (30 CFR 250.13 [Redesignated 30 CFR 250.113]). This NTL is superseded by the final rule revising the 30 CFR 250, Subpart A regulations, at 250.180.
- LTL dated August 28, 1992, subject: NAD 27 & NAD 83.

1/8/2001
Dated.

/signed/
Carolita U. Kallaur
Associate Director for Offshore
Minerals Management.