

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT (BSEE)
GULF OF MEXICO OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF REGION**

BSEE NTL No. 2014-G03

Effective Date: October 22, 2014

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

Release of Well Data and Information

This Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) supersedes NTL 2008-G22, effective November 19, 2008, and provides schedules for release of well data and information that is submitted to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) as described in NTL 2010-G02, effective March 3, 2010.

Release of Well Data and Information

The BSEE regulation at 30 CFR 250.197(b) sets forth when BSEE will release to the public geological data and interpreted geological and geophysical (G&G) information, as defined by 30 CFR 250.105. In the Gulf of Mexico Region, BSEE makes this data and information available to the public through the Gulf of Mexico Region Online Ordering System (www.data.bsee.gov/homepg/data_center/other/WebStore/master.asp). The BSEE Gulf of Mexico Region will release well G&G data and interpreted information in accordance with the provisions of 30 CFR 250.197(b), as specified in the table below.

For leases that are **still in effect**, the release of well data and interpreted information to the public, based on the data and information type, will be according to the following schedule:

Data/Information	Type	Release
Directional Survey	Geological data	2 years after required submittal*
Mudlog	Geological data	2 years after required submittal*
Well Log Image	Geological data	2 years after required submittal*
Core	Interpreted G&G information	10 years after required submittal*
Drill Stem Test	Interpreted G&G information	10 years after required submittal*
Geochemical	Interpreted G&G information	10 years after required submittal*
Paleontological	Interpreted G&G information	10 years after required submittal*
PVT	Interpreted G&G information	10 years after required submittal*
Velocity Survey	Interpreted G&G information	10 years after required submittal*
Vertical Seismic Profile	Interpreted G&G information	10 years after required submittal*

* The required submittal date is stated in NTL 2010-G02. BSEE may add an additional 30 days to the scheduled release date to process the data for public release.

If the lease is **no longer in effect**, the release of the well G&G data and information to the public will be determined by the earlier of the following:

- 1) According to the schedule in the table above; or
- 2) 90 days after the date that the lease status of the well's bottomhole lease is officially changed to Terminated, Relinquished or Expired in our database, to allow time for the lessee to appeal the termination, relinquishment, or expiration of the lease and for appeal rights to be exhausted. If the lease status is under appeal or litigation at that time, then availability of well data and information will be the same as for leases that are still in effect, according to the schedule in the table above, pending the resolution of the lease status.

The submittal of well data and information is required by various BSEE regulations as outlined in NTL 2010-G02 (Well Records Submittal). It is important that well data and information be submitted based on the well's unique 12-digit American Petroleum Institute (API) number, assigned by BSEE, so that all pertinent and appropriate data and information are released with the correct borehole. When an operator sidetracks and/or bypasses a well, BSEE will accept data and information for the sidetracked or bypassed well combined with data and information for the previous borehole, provided the previous borehole's data and information has already been submitted, and BSEE will generally release the combined well data and information based on the earliest borehole's release date.

For example, a well has been bypassed twice, giving three boreholes (for 00, 01, 02). The 01 borehole data and information may be submitted with the combined 00 data, provided the data and information from the 00 borehole has already been submitted. Subsequently, the 02 borehole data and information may be submitted with the 00 and 01 borehole data and information, provided both the 00 and 01 data were previously submitted. If only one composite report/analysis is submitted for all three boreholes, then the composite G&G data and information will be released to the public based on the earliest borehole's release date.

If G&G data and information from a data type with a 10-year release date is combined with a data type with a 2-year release date, BSEE will return the data and information to the submitter for the data and information to be separated to allow BSEE to release the data and information according to the schedule in 30 CFR 250.197, as interpreted in this NTL.

Guidance Document Statement

The BSEE issues NTLs in accordance with 30 CFR 250.103 to clarify or provide more detail about certain BSEE regulatory requirements and to outline the information you must provide in your various submittals.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement

The collection of information referred to in this NTL provides clarification, description, or interpretation of requirements contained in 30 CFR 250, Subpart A, as does the referenced NTL 2010-G02. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the information collection requirements and assigned OMB control numbers 1010-0022 for the Subpart A regulations and

1014-0018 for the Subpart D regulations. This NTL does not impose any additional information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

Contact

Direct any questions you may have regarding this NTL to the Supervisor of the Data Management Unit, Office of Technical Data Management, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, 1201 Elmwood Park Blvd. GE573E, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123 in writing; by telephone at (504) 736-2887; or by e-mail at TDM@bsee.gov.



Lars Herbst
Regional Director
BSEE