

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

NTL No. 2009-P06

Effective Date: December 18, 2009  
Expiration Date: December 17, 2014

**NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL AND GAS LEASES  
AND PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY HOLDERS IN THE PACIFIC OUTER CONTINENTAL  
SHELF REGION**

**Change of Ownership/Operatorship of Leases and Pipelines**

This Notice to Lessees, Operators, and Pipeline Right-of-Way Holders (NTL) supersedes NTL 98-06.

This NTL is being issued to inform you of the requirements and procedures that are applicable whenever there is a change in ownership or operatorship, including a name change or merger.

Pursuant to 30 CFR 250.143, in all cases where operations are not conducted by an exclusive owner of record, a designation of operator must be submitted to the Regional Supervisor prior to commencement of operations. Until the new operator is formally designated, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) will not accept plan- or permit-related submittals (such as Development and Production Plans or revisions to such plans, Applications for Permit to Drill, Oil Spill Response Plans, or Applications for Pipeline Right-of-Way Grants) from the new operator. All such submitted documents will be returned. New operators may also need to comply with other related regulatory requirements, such as being qualified and paying the fee for services pursuant to 30 CFR 256.35 and 30 CFR 250.125, respectively.

Lessees and pipeline right-of-way holders are responsible for ensuring that the MMS is informed as soon as practicable, in writing, of any changes in ownership and operatorship of all pipelines. Lessees are also responsible for determining if changes to lease or pipeline ownership/operatorship affect whether a pipeline should have a right-of-way. Owners/operators are responsible for submitting applications for new or modified pipeline right-of-way grants when required pursuant to 30 CFR 250 Subpart J.

Additionally, where operations are not conducted by the sole record title owner and the owner of the operating rights, all owners of a pipeline must designate an operator, pursuant to 30 CFR 250.143.

**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

This NTL can be found on our Website at:  
<http://www.mms.gov/omm/pacific/offshore/ntls/ntllist.htm>

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 of 1995 Statement**

The collection of information referred to in this notice provides clarification, description, or interpretation of requirements contained in 30 CFR Part 250, Subparts A, B, D, J; 30 CFR part 254; and 30 CFR part 256. The Office of Management and Budget has approved the collection of information required by these regulations and assigned OMB control number 1010-0030, 1010-0049, 1010-0053, 1010-0050, 1010-0091, and 1010-0006, respectively; and 1010-0044 (form MMS-123, Application for Permit to Drill). This notice does not impose additional information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

If you have any questions or need clarification regarding this NTL, please contact the following:

Rishi Tyagi  
Regional Supervisor  
Office of Field Operations  
(805) 389-7777

Elverlene Williams  
Leasing Specialist  
Office of Leasing and Environment  
(805) 389-7837



Ellen G. Aronson  
Regional Director  
Pacific OCS Region

12.18.09  
Date