

Minerals Management Service, Interior

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AUTHORITY: 25 U.S.C. 396 *et seq.*, 396a *et seq.*, 2101 *et seq.*; 30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*, 351 *et seq.*, 1001 *et seq.*, 1701 *et seq.*; 31 U.S.C. 3335; 43 U.S.C. 1301 *et seq.*, 1331 *et seq.*, and 1801 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 48 FR 35641, Aug. 5, 1983, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions

§ 218.10 Information collection.

The information collection requirements contained in this part have been approved by OMB under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* The forms, filing date, and approved OMB clearance numbers are identified in 30 CFR 210.10.

[57 FR 41867, Sept. 14, 1992]

§ 218.40 Assessments for incorrect or late reports and failure to report.

(a) An assessment of an amount not to exceed \$10 per day may be charged for each report not received by MMS by the designated due date.

(b) An assessment of an amount not to exceed \$10 may be charged for each incorrectly completed report.

(c) For purposes of assessments discussed in this section, a report is defined as follows:

(1) For coal and other solid mineral leases, a report is each line on the Solid Minerals Production and Royalty Report, Form MMS-4430.

(2) For oil and gas and geothermal leases, a report is each line on the Report of Sales and Royalty Remittance, Form MMS-2014.

(d) An assessment under this section shall not be shared with a State, Indian tribe, or Indian allottee.

(e) The amount of the assessment to be imposed pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall be established periodically by MMS. The assessment amount for each violation will be based on MMS's experience with costs and improper reporting. The MMS will publish a Notice of the assessment amount to be applied in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

[49 FR 37346, Sept. 21, 1984. Redesignated and amended at 51 FR 15767, Apr. 28, 1986; 52 FR 27546, July 22, 1987; 52 FR 37452, Oct. 7, 1987; 57 FR 52720, Nov. 5, 1992; 59 FR 38906, Aug. 1, 1994; 66 FR 45773, Aug. 30, 2001]

§ 218.41 Assessments for failure to submit payment of same amount as Form MMS-2014 or bill document or to provide adequate information.

(a) An assessment of an amount not to exceed \$250 may be charged when the amount of a payment submitted by a payor is not equivalent in amount to the total of individual line items on the associated Form MMS 2014 or bill document, unless the difference in amount has been authorized by MMS.

(b) An assessment of an amount not to exceed \$250 may be charged for each payment submitted by a payor that cannot be automatically applied by AFS to the associated Form MMS-2014 or bill document because of inadequate or erroneous information submitted by the payor. For purposes of this section, inadequate or erroneous information is defined as:

(1) Absent or incorrect payor assigned document number, required to be identified by the payor in Block 3a on a Form MMS-2014, or the reuse of the same payor assigned document ("3a") number in a subsequent reporting period.

(2) Absent or incorrect bill document invoice number (to include the four character alpha prefix and the eight

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digit number) or the payor-assigned 3a number required to be identified by the payor on the associated payment document, or the reuse of the same payor assigned 3a number in a subsequent reporting period.

(3) Absent or incorrect name of the administering Bureau of Indian Affairs Agency/Area office and the word “allotted” or the tribe name on payment documents remitted to MMS for an Indian tribe or allottee. If the payment is made by EFT, the payor must identify the tribe/allottee on the EFT message by a pre-established five digit code.

(4) Absent or incorrect MMS assigned payor code on a payment document.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term “Form MMS-2014” includes submission of reports of royalty information by magnetic media. Magnetic media submissions include submissions by magnetic tape, magnetic cartridge, or floppy diskette.

(d) For purposes of this section, a bill document is defined as any Bill of Collection (Form DI-1040b) that has been issued by MMS for assessments, late-payment interest charges, or other amounts owed.

(e) For purposes of this section, a payment document is defined as one of the payment methods identified in §218.51(a)(3).

(f) The amount of the assessment to be imposed pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall be established periodically by MMS. The assessment amount will be based on MMS’ experience with costs and improper reporting and/or payment as specified in this section. The MMS will publish a Notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER of the assessment amount to be applied with the effective date.

[58 FR 45438, Aug. 30, 1993]

§218.42 Cross-lease netting in calculation of late-payment interest.

(a) Interest due from a payor on any underpayment for any Federal mineral lease or leases (onshore or offshore) and on any Indian tribal mineral lease or leases for any production month shall not be reduced by offsetting against that underpayment any overpayment made by the payor on any other lease or leases, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section.

Interest due from a payor or any underpayment on any Indian allotted lease shall not be reduced by offsetting against any overpayment on any other Indian allotted lease under any circumstances.

(b) Royalties attributed to production from a lease or leases which should have been attributed to production from a different lease or leases may be offset to determine whether and to what extent an underpayment exists on which interest is due if the following conditions are met:

(1) The error results from attributing and reporting an equal volume of production, produced from a lease or leases during a particular production month, to a different lease or leases from which it was not produced for the same or another production month;

(2) The payor is the same for the lease or leases to which production was attributed and the lease or leases to which it should have been attributed;

(3) The payor submits production reports, pipeline allocation reports, or other similar documentary evidence pertaining to the specific production involved which verifies the correct production information;

(4) The lessor is the same for the leases involved (in the case of Indian tribal leases, the same tribe is the lessor); and

(5) The ultimate recipients of any royalty or other lease revenues under any applicable permanent indefinite appropriations are the same for, and receive the same percentage of revenue from, the leases.

(c) If MMS assesses late-payment interest and the payor asserts that some or all of the interest assessed is not owed pursuant to the exception set forth in paragraph (b) of this section, the burden is on the payor to demonstrate that the exception applies in the specific circumstances of the case.

(d) The exception set forth in paragraph (b) of this section shall not operate to relieve any payor of liability imposed by statute or regulation for erroneous reporting.

[57 FR 62206, Dec. 30, 1992]

Subpart B—Oil and Gas, General

SOURCE: 49 FR 37346, Sept. 21, 1984, unless otherwise noted.

§ 218.50 Timing of payment.

(a) Royalty payments are due at the end of the month following the month during which the oil and gas is produced and sold except when the last day of the month falls on a weekend or holiday. In such cases, payments are due on the first business day of the succeeding month. Rental payments are due as specified by the lease terms.

(b) Payments made on a Bill for Collection (Form DI-1040b) are due as specified by the Bill. Bills for Collection will be issued and payable as final collection actions.

(c) All payments to MMS are due as specified and are not deferred or suspended by reason of an appeal having been filed unless such deferral or suspension is approved in writing by an authorized MMS official.

§ 218.51 How to make payments.**(a) Definitions.**

ACH—Automated Clearing House. A type of EFT using the ACH network.

Courtesy Notice—An MMS-issued notice of rental or bonus due.

Deferred Bonus Payment—Lease bonus paid in equal annual installments over a specified number of years.

EFT—Electronic Funds Transfer. Any paperless transfer of funds a bank initiates through an electronic terminal. For MMS purposes, EFT is limited to FEDWIRE and ACH transfers.

FEDWIRE—A type of EFT using the Federal Reserve Wire network.

Invoice Document Identification—The MMS-assigned invoice document identification (four alpha and eight numeric characters).

Payment—Any monies for royalty, bonus, rental, late payment charge, assessment, penalty, or other money sent to MMS.

Person—Any individual, firm, corporation, association, partnership, consortium, or joint venture (when established as a separate entity). The term does not include Federal agencies.

Report—Form MMS-2014, *Report of Sales and Royalty Remittance*.

RIK—Royalty in kind.

(b) *General Instructions*. You must make all payments to MMS electronically to the extent it is cost effective and practical. If you pay money to MMS or to an Indian tribe or allottee, you must follow these procedures:

(1) If MMS instructs you to use EFT, you must use EFT for all payments to MMS and/or a tribe.

(2) Contact MMS before using EFT. MMS will provide you with EFT payment instructions.

(3) Separate any payments on a Federal lease from any payments on an Indian lease.

(4) If you are not required to use EFT, use one of the following types of payment documents. MMS prefers that you use these payment documents in the order presented:

(i) Commercial check drawn on a solvent bank;

(ii) Certified check;

(iii) Cashier's check;

(iv) Money order;

(v) Bank draft drawn on a solvent bank; or

(vi) Federal Reserve check.

(5) You must include your payor code on all payments.

(6) You must pay in U.S. dollars.

(c) *How to complete a non-EFT payment*. (1) Make any payment on a Federal lease payable to: "Department of the Interior-Minerals Management Service" or "DOI-MMS."

(2) For an Indian allottee payment, send a separate payment for each Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) agency or area office represented by the leases on your report or invoice document. You must include the name of the applicable BIA agency or area office on your payment. Make your payment document payable to: "Department of the Interior-Minerals Management Service for BIA [Name] Agency (allotted)" or "DOI-MMS for BIA [Name] Agency (allotted)."

(3) For an Indian tribal payment other than a lockbox payment, send a separate payment for each tribe represented by the leases on your report or invoice document. You must include the name of the Indian tribe on your payment. Make it payable to: "Department of the Interior-Minerals Management Service for BIA [Name of Tribe]" or "DOI-MMS for BIA [Name of Tribe]."

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(4) For an Indian tribal lockbox payment, follow the instructions MMS provides you on how to report and make the lockbox payment. These instructions are specific to each tribe's lockbox written agreement with the bank authorized to receive payments on the tribe's mineral leases. You will receive these instructions from MMS when you are required to use a tribal lockbox for reports and payments.

(d) *Where to send a non-EFT payment when you use the U.S. Postal Service.* (1) For a payment to an Indian tribal lockbox, send your payment to the appropriate tribal lockbox address.

(2) For a Federal nonproducing lease rental or deferred bonus payment, send it to:

Minerals Management Service, Minerals Revenue Management, P.O. Box 5640, Denver, CO 80217-5640.

(3) For all other Federal and Indian lease payments other than those going to an Indian tribal lockbox, send them to:

Minerals Management Service, Minerals Revenue Management, P.O. Box 5810, Denver, CO 80217-5810.

(e) *Where to send a non-EFT payment when you use a courier or overnight delivery service.* You should send this type of payment to:

Minerals Management Service, Minerals Revenue Management, Building 85, Denver Federal Center, Room A-614, Denver, CO 80225-0165.

(f) *How to prepare and what to include on your payment document.* (1) For Form MMS-2014 payments, you must include both your payor code (block 2) and your payor-assigned document number (block 3a).

(2) For invoice payments, including RIK invoice payments, you must include both your payor code and invoice document identification (four-letter prefix and eight-digit number).

(3) For bonus payments:

(i) For one-fifth bonus payments for offshore oil, gas, and sulphur leases, follow the instructions in the Notice of Lease Offering.

(ii) For payment of the four-fifths bonus for an offshore lease, use EFT and follow the instructions in §218.155(c).

(iii) For the successful bidder's bonus in the competitive sale of a coal, geothermal, or offshore mineral (other than oil, gas or sulfur) lease, follow the instructions and terms of the Notice of Competitive Lease Sale.

(iv) For installment payments of deferred bonuses, you must use EFT.

(4) If you are paying a lease rental you must:

(i) See 30 CFR 218.155(c) for instructions on how to pay first-year rentals of an offshore oil, gas, or sulfur lease;

(ii) See the Notice of Lease Offering for instructions on how to pay first-year rentals other than those covered in paragraph (f)(4)(i) of this section.

(iii) Include the MMS Courtesy Notice, when provided, or write your payor code and government-assigned lease number on the payment document when paying a rental that is not reported on Form MMS-2014 and not paid by EFT.

(g) *When is a payment to MMS due?* (1) All payments are due to MMS at the time law, regulation, or lease terms require unless MMS approves a change according to part 243 of this chapter. If you file an appeal, and the requirement to submit payment is suspended, the original payment due date for purposes such as calculating late payment interest is not changed.

(2) If you use the U.S. Postal Service, courier, or overnight mail to send your payment, it is due at the MMS addresses in paragraphs (d) and (e) of this section before 4 p.m. Mountain Time on the due date, regardless of when you sent it.

(3) If you use EFT to send your payment, it is due in the MMS account by the payment due date. You are responsible for your actions or your bank's actions that cause a late or incorrect payment. You will not be held responsible for mechanical or system failures of EFT payments.

(h) *What happens if payments are late or overdue?*

(1) If MMS receives your payment late, MMS will impose a late-payment interest charge under 30 CFR 218.54.

(2) If you do not pay an amount you owe, MMS may assess civil penalties

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under part 241 of this chapter or other applicable regulations.

[62 FR 19498, Apr. 22, 1997, as amended at 66 FR 45773, Aug. 30, 2001; 67 FR 19112, Apr. 18, 2002]

§ 218.52 How does a lessee designate a Designee?

(a) If you are a lessee under 30 U.S.C. 1701(7), and you want to designate a person to make all or part of the payments due under a lease on your behalf under 30 U.S.C. 1712(a), you must notify MMS or the applicable delegated State in writing of such designation. Your notification for each lease must include the following:

- (1) The AID number for the lease;
 - (2) The type of products you make payments for e.g., oil, gas.
 - (3) The type of payments you are responsible for e.g., royalty, minimum royalty, rental.
 - (4) Whether you are:
 - (i) A lessee of record (record title owner) in the lease, and the percentage of your record title ownership in the lease; or
 - (ii) An operating rights owner (working interest owner) in the lease, and the percentage of your operating rights ownership in the lease;
 - (5) The name, address, Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), and phone number of your Designee;
 - (6) The name, address, and phone number of the individual to contact for the person you named in paragraph (a)(5) of this section;
 - (7) Your TIN;
 - (8) The date the designation is effective;
 - (9) The date the designation terminates, if applicable, and
 - (10) A copy of the written designation;
- (b) The person you designate under paragraph (a) of this section is your Designee under 30 U.S.C. 1701(24) and 30 U.S.C. 1712(a).
- (c) If you want to terminate a designation you made under paragraph (a) of this section, you must provide to MMS in writing before the termination:

- (1) The date the designation is due to terminate; and
- (2) If you are not reporting and paying royalties and making other pay-

ments to MMS, a new designation under paragraph (a) of this section.

(d) MMS may require you to provide notice when there is a change in the percentage of your record title or operating rights ownership.

[62 FR 42066, Aug. 5, 1997]

§ 218.53 Recoupment of overpayments on Indian mineral leases.

(a) Whenever an overpayment is made under an Indian oil and gas lease, a payor may recoup the overpayment through a recoupment on Form MMS-2014 against the current month's royalties or other revenues owed on the same lease. However, for any month a payor may not recoup more than 50 percent of the royalties or other revenues owed in that month under an individual allotted lease or more than 100 percent of the royalties or other revenues owed in that month under a tribal lease.

(b) With written permission authorized by tribal statute or resolution, a payor may recoup an overpayment against royalties or other revenues owed in that month under other leases for which that tribe is the lessor. A copy of the tribe's written permission must be furnished to MMS pursuant to instructions for reporting recoupments in the MMS revenue reporter handbook. See part 210 of this chapter. Recouping overpayments on one allotted lease from royalties paid to another allotted lease is specifically prohibited.

(c) Overpayments subject to recoupment under this section include all payments made in excess of the required payment for royalty, rental, bonus, or other amounts owed as specified by statute, regulation, order, or terms of an Indian mineral lease.

(d) The MMS Director or his/her designee may order any payor to not recoup any amount for such reasonable period of time as may be necessary for MMS to review the nature and amount of any claimed overpayment.

[60 FR 3087, Jan. 13, 1995, as amended at 67 FR 19112, Apr. 18, 2002]

§ 218.54 Late payments.

(a) An interest charge shall be assessed on unpaid and underpaid