

**Onshore Oil and Gas Production Accounting, Transfer of Responsibility**

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice to lease operators to report onshore production data.

**SUMMARY:** On May 9, 1988, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) published a Notice of Final Rulemaking in the Federal Register [53 FR 16408] to amend its regulations to provide for lease operators to report onshore production data to MMS, as a result of the transfer of accounting responsibility from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). As stated in the Final Rule, MMS is following a phased conversion schedule to accomplish the transfer. Phases 1A and 1B conversions have been completed. The purpose of this notice is to inform operators on onshore leases/agreements that phases 2, 3, and 4 will be converted simultaneously. These operators will begin reporting production data to MMS for the August 1989 production month, the report for

which is due to MMS by October 15, 1989.

**Conversion Date:** Phases 2, 3, and 4 operators are required to begin reporting onshore production data to MMS for the August 1989 production month, the report for which is due to MMS by October 15, 1989.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Russo, Deputy Chief, Production Accounting Division, Royalty Management Program, Minerals Management Service, Denver Federal Center, Building 85, P.O. Box 25165, Mail Stop 657, Denver, Colorado 80225, (303) 231-3520.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Phase 1a of the conversion schedule transferred leases/agreements under the jurisdiction of the Rawlins, Wyoming, BLM District Office. Phase 1b converted leases/agreements under the jurisdiction of the Colorado, Montana, and Utah BLM State Offices and the remaining leases/agreements under the jurisdiction of the Wyoming BLM State Office. Phases 2, 3, and 4 convert leases/agreements under the jurisdiction of the Alaska, California,

Eastern States, Nevada, and New Mexico (which includes the Tulsa District Office) BLM State Offices.

Prior to the conversion date, MMS will provide affected operators with information regarding various aspects of the conversion. This information will include a listing of all leases, agreements, and well reference data in MMS's data base for purposes of comparison and reconciliation prior to conversion.

Affected operators will be assigned a unique five-digit operator number which is required to be reported on the Monthly Report of Operations, form MMS-3160.

The MMS will also provide operators with reporting instructions and training sessions to facilitate an orderly transfer of production reporting from BLM.

Dated: March 8, 1989.

Jerry D. Hill,

*Associate Director for Royalty Management.*

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