

§ 3152.2

§ 3152.2 Action on application.

(a) The authorized officer shall review each application and approve or disapprove it within 90 calendar days, unless compliance with statutory requirements such as the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) delays this action. The applicant shall be notified promptly in writing of any such delay.

(b) The authorized officer shall include in each geophysical exploration permit terms and conditions deemed necessary to protect values, mineral resources, and nonmineral resources. Geophysical permits within National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska shall contain such reasonable conditions, restrictions and prohibitions as the authorized officer deems appropriate to mitigate adverse effects upon the surface resources of the Reserve and to satisfy the requirement of section 104(b) of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6504) (See part 3130 for stipulations relating to the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska).

(c) An exploration permit shall become effective on the date specified by the authorized officer and shall expire 1 year thereafter.

(d) For lands subject to section 1008 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, exploration shall be authorized only upon a determination that such activities can be conducted in a manner which is consistent with the purposes for which the affected area is managed under applicable law.

§ 3152.3 Renewal of exploration permit.

Upon application by the permittee and payment of a nonrefundable filing fee of \$25 (except where the exploration operations are to be conducted on a leasehold by or on behalf of the lessee), an exploration permit may be renewed for a period not to exceed 1 year.

§ 3152.4 Relinquishment of exploration permit.

Subject to the continued obligations of the permittee and the surety to comply with the terms and conditions of the exploration permit and the regulations, the permittee may relinquish an exploration permit for all or any por-

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tion of the lands covered by it. Such relinquishment shall be filed with the District Manager of the proper BLM office.

§ 3152.5 Modification of exploration permit.

(a) A permittee may request, and the authorized officer may approve a modification of an exploration permit.

(b) The authorized officer may, after consultation with the permittee, require modifications determined necessary.

§ 3152.6 Collection and submission of data.

(a) The permittee shall submit to the authorized officer all data and information obtained in carrying out the exploration plan.

(b) All information submitted under this section is subject to part 2 of this title, which sets forth the rules of the Department of the Interior relating to public availability of information contained in Departmental records, as provided at § 3100.4 of this chapter.

[53 FR 17359, May 16, 1988, as amended at 63 FR 52952, Oct. 1, 1998]

§ 3152.7 Completion of operations.

(a) The permittee shall submit to the authorized officer a completion report within 30 days of completion of all operations under the permit. The completion report shall contain the following:

(1) A description of all work performed;

(2) Charts, maps or plats depicting the areas and blocks in which the exploration was conducted and specifically identifying the lines of geophysical traverses and any roads constructed;

(3) The dates on which the actual exploration was conducted;

(4) Such other information about the exploration operations as may be specified by the authorized officer in the permit; and

(5) A statement that all terms and conditions have been complied with or that corrective measures shall be taken to rehabilitate the lands or other resources.

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(b) Within 90 days after the authorized officer receives a completion report from the permittee that exploration has been completed or after the expiration of the permit, whichever occurs first, the authorized officer shall notify the permittee of the specific nature and extent of any additional measures required to rectify any damage to the lands and resources.

[53 FR 17359, May 16, 1988; 53 FR 31959, Aug. 22, 1988]

Subpart 3153—Exploration of Lands Under the Jurisdiction of the Department of Defense

§3153.1 Geophysical permit requirements.

Except in unusual circumstances, permits for geophysical exploration on unleased lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense shall be issued by the appropriate agency of that Department. In the event an agency of the Department of Defense refers an application for exploration to the Bureau for issuance, the provisions of subpart 3152 of this title shall apply. Geophysical exploration on lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense shall be authorized only with the consent of, and subject to such terms and conditions as may be required by, the Department of Defense.

Subpart 3154—Bond Requirements

§3154.1 Types of bonds.

Prior to each planned exploration, the party(s) filing the notice of intent or application for a permit shall file with the authorized officer a bond as described in §3104.1 of this title in the amount of at least \$5,000, conditioned upon full and faithful compliance with the terms and conditions of this subpart and the notice of intent or permit. In lieu thereof, the party(s) may file a statewide bond in the amount of \$25,000 covering all oil and gas exploration operations in the same State or a nationwide bond in the amount of \$50,000 covering all oil and gas exploration operations in the nation. Holders of individual, statewide or nationwide oil and gas lease bonds shall be allowed to con-

duct exploration on their leaseholds without further bonding, and holders of statewide or nationwide lease bonds wishing to conduct exploration on lands they do not have under lease may obtain a rider to include oil and gas exploration operations under this part. Holders of nationwide or any National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska oil and gas lease bonds shall be permitted to obtain a rider to include the coverage of oil and gas exploration within the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska under subpart 3152 of this title.

§3154.2 Additional bonding.

The authorized officer may increase the amount of any bond that is required under this subpart after determining that additional coverage is needed to ensure protection of the lands or resources.

§3154.3 Bond cancellation or termination of liability.

The authorized officer shall not consent to the cancellation of the bond or the termination of liability unless and until the terms and conditions of the notice of intent or permit have been met. Should the authorized officer fail to notify the party within 90 days of the filing of a notice of completion of the need for additional action by the operator to rehabilitate the lands, liability for that particular exploration operation shall automatically terminate.

[53 FR 17359, May 16, 1988; 53 FR 31867, Aug. 22, 1988]

PART 3160—ONSHORE OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS

Subpart 3160—Onshore Oil and Gas Operations: General

- Sec.
- 3160.0-1 Purpose.
- 3160.0-2 Policy.
- 3160.0-3 Authority.
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- 3160.0-5 Definitions.
- 3160.0-7 Cross references.
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Subpart 3161—Jurisdiction and Responsibility

- 3161.1 Jurisdiction.