

§ 3261.10

(b) Notices to lessees, for detailed requirements on a statewide or regional basis;

(c) Other orders and instructions specific to a field or area;

(d) Permit conditions of approval; and

(e) Verbal orders which will be confirmed in writing.

Subpart 3261—Drilling Operations: Getting a Permit

§ 3261.10 How do I get approval to begin well pad construction?

(a) If you do not have an approved geothermal drilling permit, form 3260-2, apply using a complete and signed sundry notice, form 3260-3, to build well pads and access roads. Send us a complete operations plan (see 43 CFR 3261.12) and an acceptable bond with your sundry notice. You may start well pad construction once we approve your sundry notice.

(b) If you already have an approved drilling permit and you have provided an acceptable bond, you do not need any further permission from BLM to start well pad construction unless you intend to change something from the approved permit. Send us a complete and signed sundry notice so we may review your proposed change. Do not proceed with the change until we approve your sundry notice.

§ 3261.11 How do I get approval for drilling operations and well pad construction?

(a) Send us:

(1) A completed and signed drilling permit application;

(2) A complete operations plan (43 CFR 3261.12);

(3) A complete drilling program (43 CFR 3261.13); and

(4) An acceptable bond (43 CFR 3261.18).

(b) Do not start any drilling operations until we have approved the permit.

§ 3261.12 What is an operations plan?

An operations plan describes how you will drill for and test the geothermal resources covered by your lease. Your plan must tell BLM enough about your proposal to allow us to assess the envi-

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ronmental impacts of your operations. This information should generally include:

(a) Well pad layout and design;

(b) A description of existing and planned access roads;

(c) A description of any ancillary facilities;

(d) The source of drill pad and road building material;

(e) The water source;

(f) A statement describing surface ownership;

(g) Plans for surface reclamation;

(h) A description of procedures to protect the environment and other resources; and

(i) Any other information we may require.

§ 3261.13 What is a drilling program?

A drilling program describes all the operational aspects of your proposal to drill, complete and test a well. Send us:

(a) A detailed description of the equipment, materials, and procedures you will use;

(b) The proposed/anticipated depth of the well;

(c) If you plan to directionally drill your well, also send us:

(1) The proposed bottom hole location and distances from the nearest section or tract lines;

(2) The kick-off point;

(3) The direction of deviation;

(4) The angle of build-up and maximum angle; and

(5) Plan and cross section maps indicating the surface and bottom hole locations;

(d) The casing and cementing program;

(e) The circulation media (mud, air, foam, etc.);

(f) A description of the logs that you will run;

(g) A description and diagram of the blowout prevention equipment you will use during each phase of drilling;

(h) The expected depth and thickness of fresh water zones;

(i) Anticipated lost circulation zones;

(j) Anticipated reservoir temperature and pressure;

(k) Anticipated temperature gradient in the area;