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#### Western Governors' Association

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#### Western States Land Commissioners Association

Roger Melson, Oklahoma  
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P.O. Box 26910, Oklahoma City, OK  
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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** President Clinton signed the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Simplification and Fairness Act (RSFA) on August 13, 1996, to improve the management of royalties from Federal oil and gas leases. This is the first major legislation affecting royalty management since the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 (FOGRMA) was passed in January 1983.

In our **Federal Register** Notice dated October 30, 1996 (61 FR 55941), MMS listed key issues involved in implementing RSFA. This workshop will focus on some of those key issues. Potential discussion topics include:

#### Interest on Overpayments

- Accepting Interest Payments and Reporting from "Designees" on Underpayments.
- Reporting and Paying Interest on Overpayments.

#### Assessing for Chronic Erroneous Reporting Takes/Entitlements

- Marginal Properties exception to RSFA entitlements reporting requirements.
- Reporting requirements on takes/entitlement basis.

#### Marginal Properties

- Providing Accounting, Reporting, and Auditing Relief for Marginal Properties.
- Allowing for Prepayments of Future Revenue Streams.

For each of these issues, MMS plans to describe work to date including any decision reached. MMS will also discuss the status of regulations, systems changes, and process implementation for each of these key issues. We will also focus on aspects of these key issues where we believe State and industry feedback is needed before we go further in implementation.

In order to accomplish a broad based fact finding on how the requirements of RSFA affect our customers and stakeholders, comments from the public are encouraged on any issue related to implementing RSFA. In addition to attendance at this workshop, comments can be made in writing and sent directly to MMS using instructions in the **ADDRESSES** part of this notice.

Dated: October 16, 1997.

**Lucy Querques Denett,**

*Associate Director for Royalty Management.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Minerals Management Service

#### 30 CFR Part 206

**RIN 1010-AC09**

#### Public Meeting on Proposed Rule; Establishing Oil Value for Royalty Due on Federal Leases

**AGENCY:** Minerals Management Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of public workshop and reopening of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Minerals Management Service (MMS) has reopened the public comment period under a proposed rule published in the **Federal Register** on January 24, 1997 (62 FR 3742), amending the royalty valuation regulations for crude oil produced from Federal leases. In the July 3, 1997, **Federal Register** (62 FR 36030), we published a supplementary notice of proposed rulemaking. We received a variety of comments on the proposed and supplementary proposed rules. In the September 22, 1997, **Federal Register** (62 FR 49460), we published a summary of these comments, outlined alternatives for proceeding with further rulemaking, and requested public comment on those or other suggested alternatives. MMS now extends the comment period to November 5, 1997.

MMS will hold a public workshop to discuss alternatives for proceeding with the rulemaking. The purpose of this workshop is to obtain comments on the alternatives described in the September

22, 1997, **Federal Register** notice, or any new alternatives or modifications to the proposed alternatives for MMS's consideration. We are not requesting comments on the original proposed rule or the supplemental proposed rule, nor on the summary of comments outlined in the September 22, 1997, **Federal Register** notice. Interested parties are invited to attend and participate in this workshop.

**DATES:** The public workshop will be held from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. on October 27, 1997, Eastern time. MMS must receive comments on or before November 5, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The workshop will be held at the Main Interior Building, Large Buffet Room, in the Cafeteria, Basement Floor, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, telephone (202) 208-3512. Mail written comments to: Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, Rules and Publications Staff, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3021, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165; courier address is Building 85, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225; or e-Mail to David\_Guzy@mms.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David S. Guzy, Chief, Rules and Publications Staff, Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, P.O. Box 25165, MS 3021, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165, telephone (303) 231-3432, fax number (303) 231-3385, e-Mail David\_Guzy@mms.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** MMS held public workshops and meetings in the oil producing areas of the U.S. where the issues and alternatives about oil valuation have been discussed. Participants at these earlier workshops and meetings requested more time to submit comments. Also, we received requests to hold an additional workshop in the Washington, D.C. area. Accordingly, a workshop is now scheduled for October 27 in Washington, D.C. The public is invited, without advance registration, to further discuss the alternatives. We encourage members of the public to participate in a discussion of the alternatives. For building security measures, each person will be required to present a picture identification to gain entry to the workshop. In order to allow for sufficient time to comment on the proposed alternatives, the comment period is extended to November 5, 1997.

Dated October 17, 1997.

**Lucy Querques Denett,**

*Associate Director for Royalty Management.*

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