



Indian Mineral Royalty Management

Roles and Responsibilities of the U.S. Department of the Interior

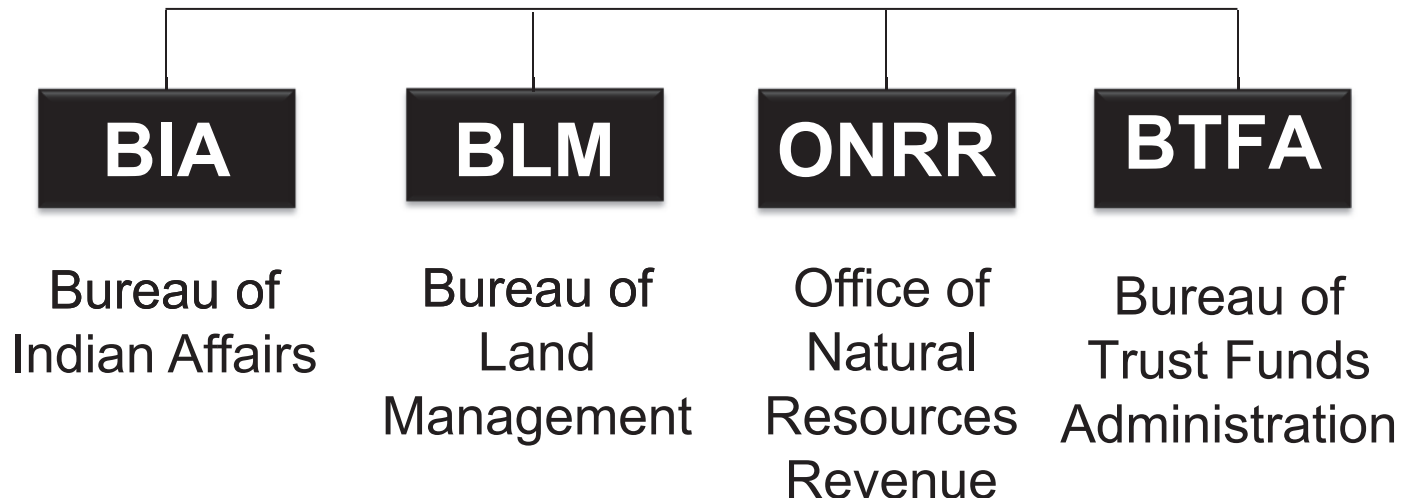
***Prepared by the Office of Natural Resources Revenue
(ONRR)***

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U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)



Bureaus and Offices Involved with Indian Leases



What BIA Does

Facilitates the leasing process and ensures minimum requirements are met

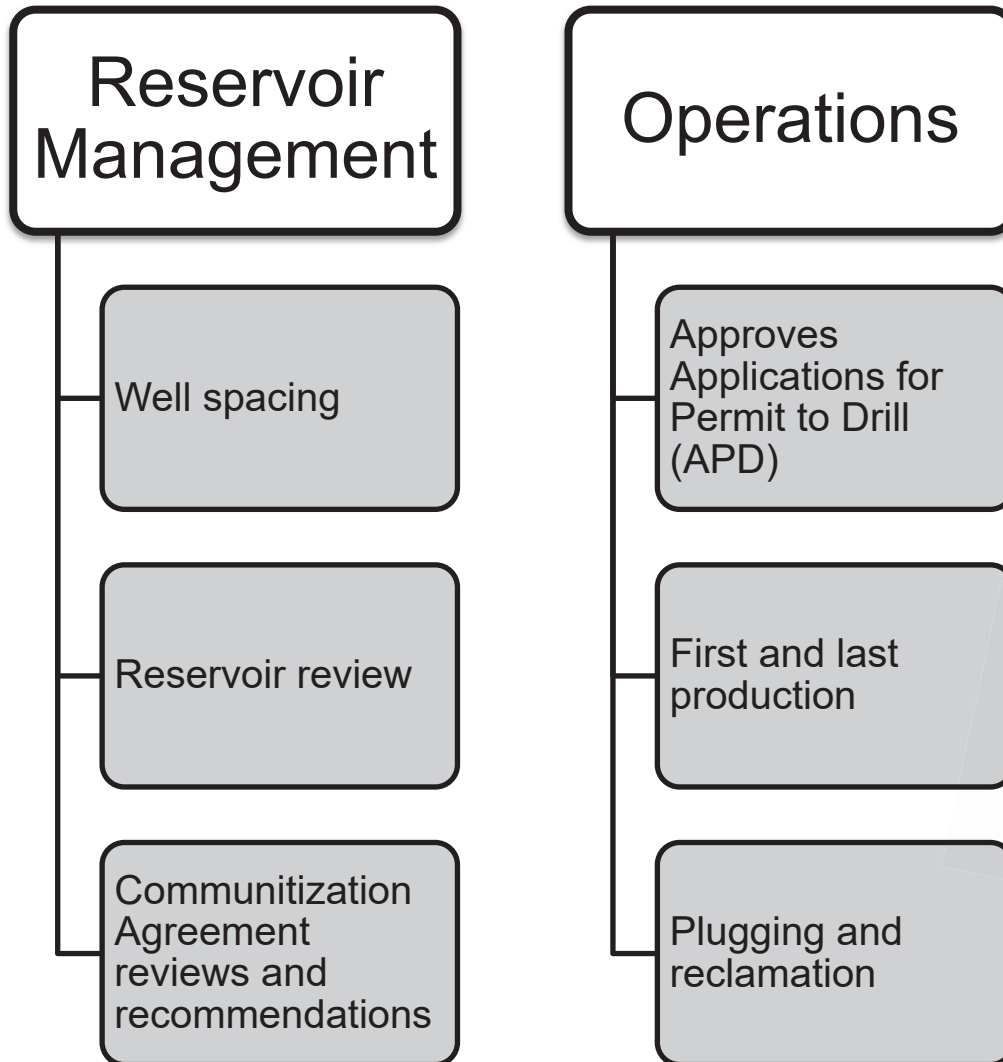
Approves and issues Indian leases

Maintains ownership records

Finalizes and approves Communitization Agreements (CA)



What BLM Does



What BLM Does

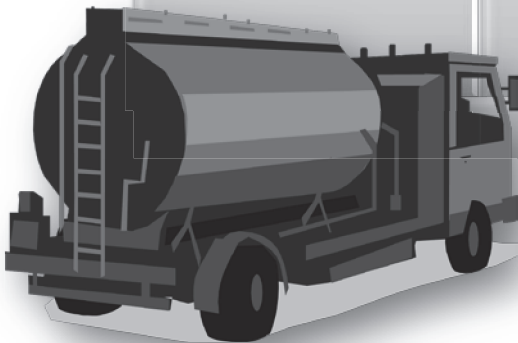
Inspection and Enforcement

Drilling and
production
activities

Well work
overs and
repairs

Witness sales

Inspect
measurement
devices



What is ONRR & what ONRR does

ONRR is an office within the Office of the Secretary that is responsible for the management of revenues associated with federal offshore, federal, and American Indian onshore mineral leases, as well as revenues received as a result of offshore renewable energy efforts. This revenue management effort is one of the federal government's greatest sources of non-tax revenues.

Receives royalty payments from oil and gas companies

- Deposits money in U.S. Treasury within 24 hours of receipt so royalties can begin to earn interest

Receives sales and production reports from oil and gas companies

- Provides BIA with distribution reports two times per month

Performs audits and compliance reviews



What BTFA Does

Distributes royalty payments based on:

- Availability of funds from ONRR
- Disbursement instructions from BIA

Pays Indian mineral owners through:

- Direct Deposit
- Debit Card
- Check

Provides statements with each payment, quarterly Individual Indian Money (IIM) account statements and Internal Revenue Service 1099 Forms* to Indian mineral owners. It is important to keep your address updated with the BTFA.

Invests royalties in United States Treasury securities to earn income

For additional information contact:

- Trust Beneficiary Call Center toll free # 1-888-678-6836
Reports the various types of income you may receive throughout the year other than the salary your employer pays you.

BIA Lease Documents

Lease Terms

- Primary Term – time frame the company has to begin drilling (length of terms vary and can be up to 10 years)
- Secondary Term - once mineral production is established the lease remains in force as long as it is producing in paying quantities

Assignments

- Lessee can assign or sell the lease
- The buyer assumes responsibility for all of the original lease terms and liabilities

Heirs

- Lessor's lease interest can pass to heirs



Lease Payment Types

Bonus Payment

- Normally stated as a dollar amount per acre
- One-time payment following lease approval

Rental Payment

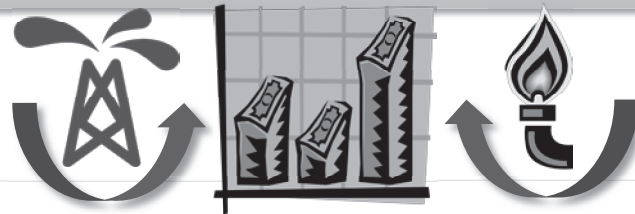
- Normally stated as a dollar amount per acre
- Annual payment on lease anniversary date

Royalty Payments

- Received by ONRR at the end of the month following the month the company sells the product



Sample Timeline of Indian Royalty Payments



Sale of oil and gas during the month of April 2014



Oil & Gas Company

Royalties owed on April sales are reported and paid to ONRR by 5/31/2014



Royalties are deposited in the United States Treasury: 06/01/2014 (begins earning interest)



BIA and BTFA

Royalties and interest earned are paid to Indian mineral owners on or about 06/11/2014 and/or 06/25/2014



How Royalties are Calculated on a Lease

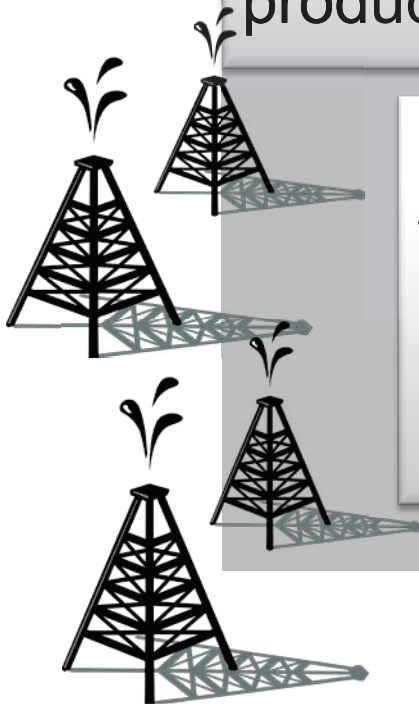


Step 1	Total sales volume for the lease	750 barrels
	Price per barrel	<u>\$90.00</u>
	Total sales revenue for the lease (750 x \$90)	\$67,500.00
Step 2	Royalty rate (per lease terms)	<u>18%</u>
	Total royalties for the lease (\$67,500 x .18)	\$12,150.00
Step 3	Individual Indian mineral ownership in the lease	<u>8.526%</u>
	Individual Indian mineral royalty (\$12,150 x .08526)	\$1,035.91

Why is my Lease in a Communitization Agreement (CA)?

► Well spacing requirements, set by the State and BLM, manage the number and location of wells in an oil and gas field and ensure reservoirs are not damaged by over production.

► When an individual lease does not meet the well spacing requirements to support an independent well, a CA is formed by joining multiple leases together to meet the spacing requirements.



Benefits of a Communitization Agreement

- Enables the development of leases that might otherwise be too small to support their own well.
- Each lease in the CA shares proportionately in the production from the communitized acreage based on the amount of acreage it contributes to the CA.

Lease 1
320 Acres

Lease 2
160 Acres

Lease 3
160 Acres



Formation

For example, if well spacing is 640 acres for a particular reservoir, the operator can only drill 1 well for each 640 acres. If your lease is 160 acres, it must link up with other neighboring leases to total 640 acres. Your lease would then be allocated 25% of sales from the CA.

How Royalties are Calculated on a Communitization Agreement

Step 1	Total sales volume for the agreement	4,000 barrels
	Lease allocation % in the agreement	<u>25%</u>
	Total sales volume for the lease (4,000 X .25)	1,000 barrels
Step 2	Total sales volume for the lease	1,000 barrels
	Price per barrel	<u>\$90.00</u>
	Total sales revenue for the lease (1,000 X \$90.00)	\$90,000
Step 3	Royalty rate (per lease terms)	<u>18%</u>
	Total royalties for the lease (\$90,000 X .18)	\$16,200
Step 4	Individual Indian mineral ownership in the lease	<u>8.526%</u>
	Individual Indian mineral royalty amount (\$16,200 x .08526)	\$1,381.21

Items that Cause Your Royalty Payments to Change

Sales Price

Volumes Sold

Audits

**Compliance
Reviews**

Adjustments

Recoupments

**Estimated
Payments**



Adjustments to Royalty Payments:

Can either increase or decrease your payment

Are shown on your “Explanation of Payment” (EOP) Report provided by the BTFA



Are verified by ONRR to ensure oil & gas companies reported correctly

Oil and Gas Companies Make Adjustments When:

Correcting their reported and/or payment mistakes

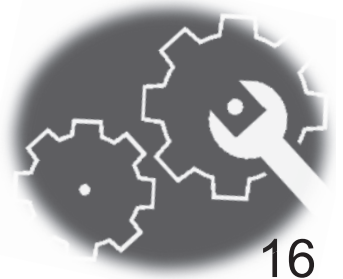
Underpayments and/or overpayments were made

New or corrected information concerning sales volumes and prices is received

Notified of reporting problems identified by ONRR's audit and compliance verification processes



Adjustments often result in interest collections from the oil and gas companies which are then passed on to the individual Indian mineral owner.



Adjustments for Overpayments (commonly called recoupments) are:



Made by companies when they have overpaid lease royalties in prior periods



Monitored by ONRR to ensure the lease has no more than 50% of the current month's royalties recouped (Refer to 30 CFR § 1218.53)

BTFA Explanation of Payment Report (EOP)

Summary of your royalty distribution including:

- Volumes Sold
- Sales Price
- Products Sold

Itemizes any allowances, adjustments, and recoupments that affect your royalties



Contains important information such as your lease number, ownership percentage, tract name, and tract number

Important Information To Have When Calling ONRR

Your lease number issued by BIA

Example 1420A048xxx

Your mineral interest ownership from BIA

Example 0.00829

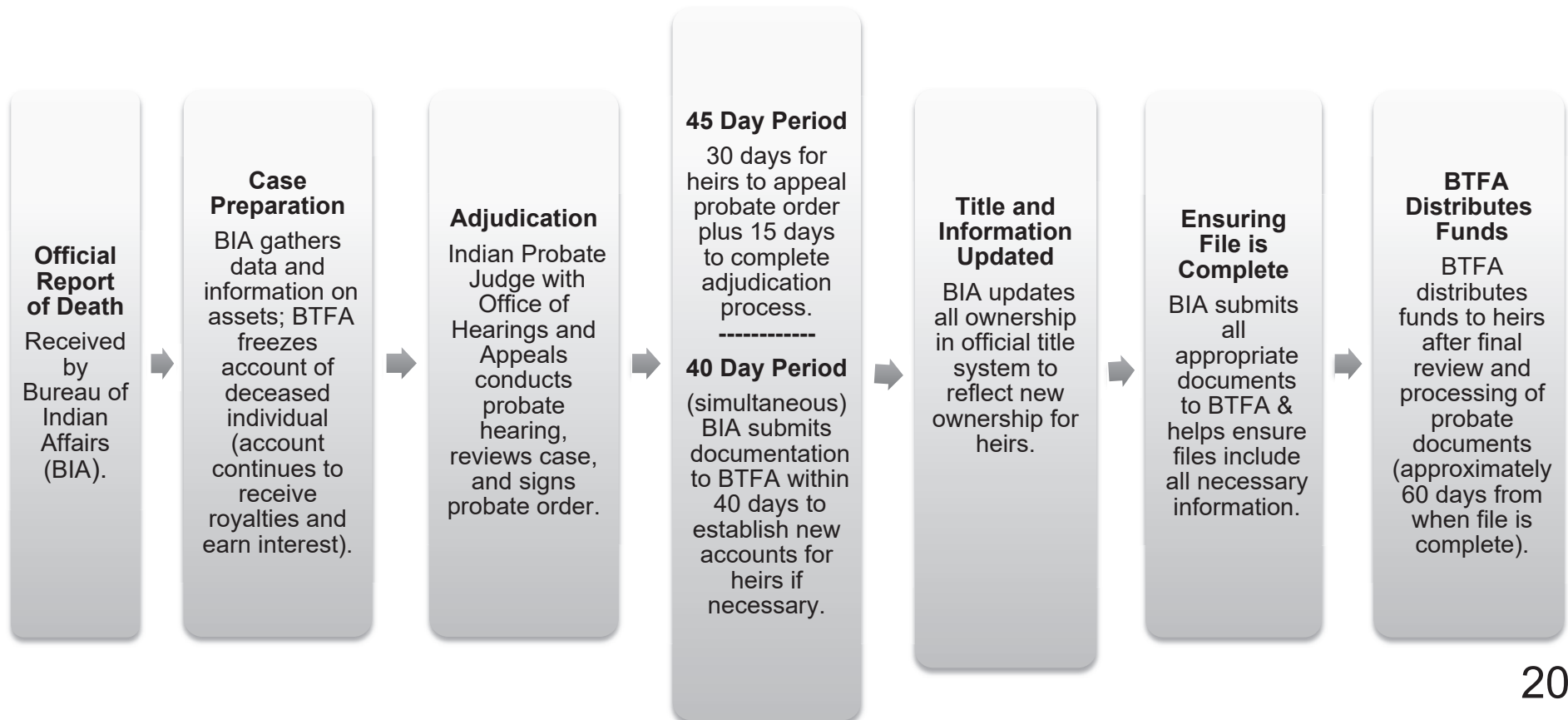
Your enrollment location

Your enrollment number



Probate Process and Timeframes

When an Indian trust beneficiary passes away, the U.S. Department of the Interior is responsible for distributing the beneficiary's assets to his or her rightful heirs. Interior is working to improve the probate process and time that it takes to distribute the assets. This chart explains the required step-by-step process to correctly distribute the assets.



Probate Process: Who Does What?

BIA and BTFA

have responsibilities in the probate process

The local BIA agency is responsible for:

- Case preparation
- Title updates in all necessary systems
- Preparing and submitting the necessary probate transmittal and supporting documents to complete the process

The local BTFA office is responsible for:

- Ensuring new accounts are established for heirs
- Following up to help ensure estates are distributed within the expected processing time
- Assisting the local BIA agency when probate packages are “rejected” because of incomplete information

Is the Income from Trust Land Subject to Federal Income Tax?



Revised Ruling 56-342

Income held in trust for or received by the patent holder which is derived directly from allotted and restricted Indian lands while such lands are held by the United States, as trustee, in accordance with section 5 of the General Allotment Act of 1887, 24 Stat. 338, as amended, 25 U.S.C. 348, is exempt from Federal income tax. *Squire v. Horton Capoeman et ux.*, 351 U.S. 1, Ct. D. 1796, C.B. 1956-1, 605. Such exempt income includes rentals (including crop rentals), royalties, proceeds of sales of the natural resources of such land, and income from the sale of crops grown upon the land and from the use of the land for grazing purposes. Such income is not includible in computing net earnings from self-employment for purpose of the tax imposed by the Self-Employment Contributions Act of 1954 (chapter 2, subtitle A, Internal Revenue Code of 1954).

Please consult your tax professional for additional guidance or if you hold lands within The Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma.

For Additional Information Contact

Office of Natural Resources Revenue
Indian Outreach
PO Box 25165, MS64120C
Denver, CO 80225-0165



For General Information visit us at www.onrr.gov

For Toll Free Assistance please call our:

Denver Office	1-800-982-3226
Oklahoma City Office	1-800-354-7015
Federal Indian Minerals Office in Farmington	1-800-238-2839

Questions can also be emailed to:
onrroutreachdenver@onrr.gov or onrroutreachokc@onrr.gov

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[TWITTER - @DOIONRR](https://twitter.com/DOIONRR)

What is the State and Indian Outreach Service?

The State and Indian Coordination Office is a special organization within the Office of Natural Resources Revenue, which is specifically dedicated to serving Individual Indian Mineral Owners. A component of this organization is the State and Indian Outreach Service which is designed to resolve royalty related problems and to let individual owners know how to contact us. Regularly scheduled outreach meetings enable us to answer questions, listen to concerns and suggestions for improvement, and identify & resolve mineral-related problems in partnership with the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA). We have an Oklahoma City office which serves the state of Oklahoma, a Farmington office which services Navajo mineral owners, and a Denver office which services Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. Our goal is to enhance our trust responsibility and foster a positive working relationship with the Indian community.

The Office of Natural Resources Revenue, in conjunction with BIA and BTFA, provides revenue management services for mineral leases on American Indian lands. Money collected for Indian mineral leases is returned 100% to Individual Indian Mineral Owners.

<h1>NOTES</h1>
