

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT**

NTL No.2015-N02

Effective Date: FEB 06 2015

**NOTICE TO LESSEES (NTL) AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL AND GAS
LEASES IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF (OCS)**

Elimination of Expiration Dates on Certain Notices to Lessees and Operators Pending
Review and Reissuance

Purpose

This national Notice to Lessees and Operators eliminates the expiration dates on certain existing NTLs published on the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) website. This NTL also clarifies that until BOEM revises, reissues, or withdraws the published NTLs, they will continue to apply regardless of any stated expiration dates.

Authority

As authorized by 30 CFR 550.103, BOEM may issue NTLs to clarify, supplement, or provide more detail about regulatory requirements under 30 CFR Part 550, "Oil, Gas and Sulphur Operations in the OCS." Those regulatory requirements implement the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*, and govern exploration, development, and production operations for oil, gas or sulphur on the OCS.

Elimination of NTL Expiration Dates

Since the 1990s, under the authority of 30 CFR 550.103, BOEM (or its predecessor agency) has issued NTLs as guidance documents to (a) clarify, explain, or provide more information about certain regulatory requirements, and (b) outline what information you must provide in various submittals required by the regulations. The NTLs provide guidance and interpretations concerning regulatory requirements in order to provide clear and consistent approaches for complying with those requirements.

BOEM publishes and maintains a list of all active NTLs issued from 1998 through the present--on its public website, <http://www.boem.gov/Notices-Letters-Information-to-Lessees-and-Operators/>. BOEM periodically reviews NTLs and may withdraw, reissue, or revise any NTL, as appropriate. Although many NTLs have no expiration dates, some NTLs (primarily those issued in 2008 – 2011) were issued with expiration dates. Inclusion of expiration dates was primarily intended to stimulate agency review of those notices on a regular basis.

BOEM has previously reviewed and revised, reissued, or withdrawn a number of the NTLs that were originally issued with expiration dates. BOEM is currently reviewing NTLs with recent and upcoming expiration dates. When BOEM completes this review, it will revise,

reissue, or withdraw these NTLs.

In the interim, to avoid confusion, BOEM is hereby eliminating the expiration dates (whether past or upcoming) from NTLs currently posted on the BOEM website. You should continue to comply with the regulations as clarified in the posted NTLs. NTLs published in the future will not have expiration dates, except in certain circumstances where it may be deemed appropriate.

Please note that the elimination of expiration dates does not apply to any posted expiration dates for OMB approvals of information collection associated with any of these NTLs. BOEM obtains and updates OMB approval of all relevant information collections as required under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA).

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement

This NTL does not impose any information collection requirements subject to PRA.

Contact

If you have any questions regarding this NTL, please contact Deanna Meyer-Pietruszka Chief, Office of Policy, Regulation and Analysis at (202) 208-6352 or deanna.meyer-pietruszka@boem.gov



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