

**MMS Proposed Rule - 30 CFR 250; 2/13/98 FR 7335, 3/9/98 FR 11385**

Section	MMS Proposed Language	Recommended Language/Comments	Rationale
218.154 (a)(1)	<p>(a) MMS will not require a lessee to pay rental or minimum royalty for or during a period of suspension if the Regional Supervisor:</p> <p>(1) Directs the suspension of both operations and production; or</p>	<p>1) Directs the suspension of <del>both</del> operations <b>and or</b> production; or</p>	<p>The MMS proposal would require lessees to pay rental or minimum royalty if an SOO is granted on a lease when there is no production but there is a producible well. This is contrary to existing practice in which there is a distinction and obligation to pay based on “who” directed or requested the suspension. It is entirely possible to have an MMS-directed suspension on the lease with a producible well in its history but no production. In such case, lessees should be relieved of the responsibility to pay.</p>
218.154 (a)(2)	<p>2) Directs the suspension of operations on a lease on which there is no producible well under the provisions of 30 CFR 250.19(j)(1), (j)(2), (j)(4) or (k)(2).</p>	<p>2) Directs the suspension of operations on a lease on which there is no producible well under the provisions of 30 CFR 250.19(j)(1), (j)(2), <b>(j)(3)</b>, (j)(4) or (k)(2).</p>	<p>Safety and environmental requirements have been excluded on a lease with no producible well. It is entirely possible that such a requirement could be imposed by an agency with authority over such area near the end of a lease term. In such an instance a drilling rig might need to be re-outfitted. This could require a mobilization to a shore location (such as a shipyard) to add, for example, zero-discharge required equipment. Lessees should not be required to pay under these circumstances. This would be a departure from current practice since the suspension would be granted at the direction of the agency.</p>

250.2	<i>Best available and safest technology (BAST)</i> means the best available and safest technologies which the Secretary determines to be economically feasible wherever failure of equipment would have a significant effect on safety, health, or the environment.	<i>Best available and safest technology (BAST)</i> means the best available and safest technologies which the <b>Secretary Regional Director or his designee</b> determines to be economically feasible wherever failure of equipment would have a significant effect on safety, health, or the environment.	The Regional Director and the Regional Staff customarily analyze what equipment is best suited to protect safety, health, and the environment. The Regional Offices consult with Headquarters Staff when necessary in cases that require additional input
250.2	<i>Competitive reservoir</i> means a reservoir in which there are one or more well completions on each of two or more leases or portions of leases, with different lease operating interests, from which the lessees plan future production.	<i>Competitive reservoir</i> means a reservoir in which there are one or more <b>produced or producing</b> well completions on each of two or more leases or portions of leases, with different lease operating interests, from which the lessees plan future production	Clarification.
250.2	<i>Conservation</i> means preservation, economy, and avoidance of waste. It is especially important in the petroleum industry, since oil and gas are irreplaceable.	<i>Conservation</i> means preservation, <b>economy</b> , and avoidance of waste <b>of economically viable hydrocarbons. It is especially important in the petroleum industry, since oil and gas are irreplaceable.</b>	The term conservation as proposed is too vague. Generally speaking, it is the preservation and prevention of waste of economically viable hydrocarbons, which is intended.
250.2	<i>Development</i> means those activities which take place following discovery of minerals in paying quantities, including geophysical activity, drilling, platform construction, and operation of all onshore support facilities, and which are for the purpose of ultimately producing the minerals discovered.	<i>Development</i> means those activities which take place following discovery of minerals in paying quantities, including <b>but not limited to</b> geophysical activity, drilling, platform construction, and operation of all <b>directly related</b> onshore support facilities, and which are for the purpose of ultimately producing the minerals discovered.	Clarification.
250.2	<i>Easement</i> means an authorization for a non-possessory, non-exclusive interest in a portion of an OCS tract, whether leased or unleased,	<i>Easement</i> means an authorization <b>to use a portion of an OCS lease block which is non-possessory and non-</b>	The proposed definition is a new one. OCS tract is now an archaic term. The use of the phrase "non-possessory and

	<p>which specifies the rights of the holder to use the area embraced in the easement in a manner consistent with the terms and conditions of the granting authority.</p>	<p><del><b>exclusive. for a non-possessory, non-exclusive interest in a portion of an OCS tract, whether leased or unleased, which specifies the rights of the holder to use the area embraced in the easement in a manner consistent with</b></del> <b><u>The easement may be granted on leased or unleased blocks and the rights of the holder to use shall be specified and limited to the terms and conditions of</u></b> the granting authority.</p>	<p>non-exclusive interest” is misleading since the basic nature of easement is right of use as opposed to interest which appears to focus more on a possessory right.</p>
<p>250.2</p>	<p><i>Facility</i>, as used in Sec. 250.11 concerning inspections, means any installation permanently or temporarily attached to the seabed (that includes manmade islands, and bottom-sitting structures) and any onshore installation used for oil, gas, or sulphur drilling, production, or related activities. Any group of installations that is interconnected with walkways, or any group of installations that includes a central or primary installation with processing equipment and one or more satellite or secondary installations, is a single facility unless the Regional Supervisor determines that the complexity of the individual installations justifies their classification as separate facilities.</p>	<p><i>Facility</i>, as used in Sec. 250.11 concerning inspections, means any installation permanently or temporarily attached to the seabed <b><u>on the OCS</u></b> (that includes manmade islands, and bottom-sitting structures) <del>and any onshore installation</del> used for oil, gas, or sulphur drilling, production, or related activities. <b><u>It also includes facilities for product measurement and royalty verification (e.g., LACT units, gas meters) of OCS production located on installations not on the OCS.</u></b> Any group of <b><u>OCS</u></b> installations that is interconnected with walkways, or any group of installations that includes a central or primary installation with processing equipment and one or more satellite or secondary installations, is a single facility unless the Regional Supervisor determines that the complexity of the individual installations justifies their classification as separate facilities.</p>	<p>The word onshore must be a typo, otherwise, this new definition would improperly expand MMS’s jurisdiction in the area of inspection to onshore facilities. This would allow the MMS to inspect gas plants that process OCS gas, coastal facilities that separate oil/gas/water, and other similar facilities for which the MMS does not have jurisdiction. Also the MMS does not have jurisdiction over the State Agencies that already perform these functions. The recommended change clarifies that facilities are on the OCS.</p>

250.2	<p><i>Lessee</i> means a person who has entered into, or who is the MMS-approved assignee of, a lease with the United States to explore for, develop, and produce the leased minerals.</p>	<p><i>Lessee</i> means a person who has entered into <b><u>a lease, or who is the MMS-approved assignee of, a lease</u></b> with the United States to explore for, develop, and produce <b><u>the</u></b> leased minerals. The term <i>lessee</i> also includes an owner of operating rights for that lease <b><u>and the MMS-approved assignee of that lease.</u></b></p>	<p>Clarification.</p>
250.2	<p><i>Of archaeological interest</i> means capable of providing scientific or humanistic understanding of past human behavior, . . .</p>	<p><del><i>Of Archaeological interest</i></del> means <b><u>that it directly leads to capable of</u></b> providing scientific or humanistic understanding of past human behavior, . . .</p>	<p>The words “capable of” are unclear when used in the context of this definition and can be misinterpreted. The proposed words provide clarification.</p>
250.2	<p><i>Operating rights</i> means any interest held in a lease with right to explore for, develop, and produce leased substances. Any assignment or transfer of operating rights may specify the depth of the borehole down to which the operating rights extend.</p>	<p><i>Operating rights</i> means any interest held in a lease with right to explore for, develop, and produce leased substances. Any assignment or transfer of operating rights may specify the depth <del><b><u>of the borehole down</u></b></del> to which the operating rights extend.</p>	<p>By including borehole in this definition, the proposed language is too specific. There are more cases when operating rights are assigned or transferred to a stratigraphic depth or other point, without a borehole descriptor.</p>

250.2	<i>Producing in paying quantities</i> means that a well is able to produce oil, gas, or both in a cost-effective manner. This means that the production quantities must yield a greater return than the total costs, including well-completion costs, of producing the hydrocarbons at the wellhead.	<i>Producing in paying quantities</i> <b><u>means that a well is producing in paying quantities when it meets the criteria set out in Section 250.9 able to produce oil, gas, or both in a cost-effective manner. This means that the production quantities must yield a greater return than the total costs, including well-completion costs, of producing the hydrocarbons at the wellhead.</u></b>	Two separate sets of tests have been specified which will lead to ambiguity. The proposed definition suggests an economic test. Section 250.9 suggests specific tests which in most cases lead to economic production. However, there is no guarantee that the two definitions will always be equal and overlap. This may lead over time to great confusion in administering minimum royalty payment and in determining lease status for possible suspension.
250.2	<b>ADD NEW DEFINITION</b>	<b><u>Production Areas are those areas where flammable petroleum gas and volatile liquids are produced, processed (e.g. compressed), stored, transferred (e.g. pumped), or otherwise handled prior to entering the transportation process.</u></b>	Need to add clarification. Definition is from API RP 500.
250.2	<i>Sensitive reservoir</i> means a reservoir in which high reservoir production rates will decrease ultimate recovery. Initially, all oil reservoirs with an associated gas cap are classified as sensitive.	<i>Sensitive reservoir</i> means a reservoir in which high reservoir production rates will decrease ultimate recovery. <b><u>For the submittal of the first MER initially</u></b> , all oil reservoirs with an associated gas cap are classified as sensitive.	The word “initially” in this definition is ambiguous. The classification of a sensitive reservoir can be defined in the first MER and if necessary, the MMS can determine after that point if the treatment as a sensitive reservoir should continue.

250.2	<i>Suspension</i> means a granted or directed deferral of the requirement to produce (Suspension of Production (SOP)) or to conduct leaseholding operations (Suspension of Operations (SOO)).	<i>Suspension</i> means a <del>granted or directed deferral of the requirement</del> <b>deferral granted at the request of the lessee or directed by the MMS of the requirement</b> to produce (Suspension of Production (SOP)) or to conduct leaseholding operations (Suspension of Operations (SOO)).	Clarification.
250.2	<b>ADD NEW DEFINITION</b>	<b><u>Well bay is the perimeter of the outer most wellheads.</u></b>	Clarification. Definition was from an MMS workshop in conjunction with the implementation of regulations in 1988.
250.3	<p>Performance Standards</p> <p>Under what standards will the Director regulate lease operations?</p> <p>(b) Prevent damage to or waste of any natural resource, life, property, or the environment; and</p> <p>(c) Cooperate and consult with affected States, local governments, other interested parties, and relevant Federal agencies.</p>	<p>(b) <b><u>Prevent loss of life</u></b></p> <p>(<del>c</del> <del>b</del>) Prevent <b><u>unreasonable</u></b> damage to or waste of any natural resource, property, or the environment; and</p> <p>(<del>d</del> <del>e</del>) Cooperate and consult with affected States, local governments, other interested parties, and relevant Federal agencies..</p>	<p>Suggested changes include the word <b><u>unreasonable</u></b> when considering damage to natural resources, property, or environment recognizing that oil and gas developments can not avoid some minimal amount of damages.</p> <p><b><u>Prevent losses of life</u></b> does not have the unreasonableness test.</p>
250.5	What standards must crane operations meet? To ensure the safety of the facility operations, you must meet the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section. If your facility is located in the Pacific OCS Region, you must also meet the requirements of paragraph (b) of this	What standards must crane operations meet? To ensure the safety of the facility operations, you must meet the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section. <del>If your facility is located in the</del>	There is no technical or safety justification for requiring more stringent requirements in the Pacific Region. Varying regulatory requirements for operating areas creates confusion with no measurable value.

	<p>section.</p> <p>(b) This paragraph applies if your facility is located in the Pacific OCS Region. You may use . . . .</p>	<p><del>Pacific OCS Region, you must also meet the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section.</del></p> <p><del>(b) This paragraph applies if your facility is located in the Pacific OCS Region. You may use . . . .</del></p>	
250.6 (a)	<p>You must submit a Welding, Burning, and Hot Tapping Safe Practices and Procedures Plan to the District Supervisor before you begin drilling or production activities on a lease. You may not begin welding activities until the District Supervisor has approved your plan. A copy of the plan and its approval letter must be available at the facility for the life of the facility (platform or drilling rig).</p>	<p>You must submit a Welding, Burning, and Hot Tapping Safe Practices and Procedures Plan to the District Supervisor before you begin drilling or production activities on a lease. You may not begin welding activities until the District Supervisor has approved your plan. A copy of the plan and its approval letter must be <b>kept in the field available at the facility for the life of the facility (platform or drilling rig).</b></p>	<p>It should not be necessary to keep a copy of the plan and approval letter at all facilities and drilling rigs for their life. A copy in the field, similar to the requirement for H2S Contingency Plans, should be sufficient.</p>
(b) (4)	<p>Drawings showing any designated safe-welding areas; and</p>	<p><del>Drawings showing any d</del> <b>Designated safe-welding areas; drawings showing designated safe-welding areas shall be maintained on the facility; and</b></p>	<p>Drawings of safe-welding areas of all facilities covered by the plan should not be required in the plan. A drawing showing the designated safe-welding area developed by following the procedures identified in the plan should be maintained on the facility and should not be required with the plan. This is consistent with existing regulations.</p>
(e)	<p>Before you weld, you must move any equipment containing hydrocarbons or other flammable substances at least 35 feet horizontally from the work site. . . .</p>	<p>Before you weld, you must move any equipment containing hydrocarbons or other flammable substances at least 35 feet horizontally from the <b>welding area work site.</b> . . . .</p>	<p>Clarification.</p>
(g)(1)	<p>You may not begin welding until the designated person-in-charge has authorized in writing that it is safe to proceed with the welding activity. Before beginning welding, the</p>	<p>You may not begin welding until the <b>welding supervisor or</b> designated person-in-charge has authorized in writing that it is safe to proceed with the</p>	<p>Including welding supervisor is consistent with 250.6(c).</p>

	designated person-in-charge and the welder(s) must inspect the work area and areas below the work area for potential fire and explosion hazards	welding activity. Before beginning welding, the designated person-in-charge and the welder(s) must inspect the work area and areas below the work area for potential fire and explosion hazards.	
(g)(4)	You may not weld in, or within 10 feet of, a well-bay or production area unless you have shut in all producing wells in that area.	You may not weld <del>in, or</del> within 10 feet of, a well-bay <del>or production area</del> unless you have shut in all producing wells in that <del>area wellbay</del> . <b><u>You may not weld within 10 feet of a production area, unless you have shut-in that production area.</u></b>	Provides clarification of shut-in requirements.
(g)(5)	You may not weld while you drill, complete, workover, or conduct wireline operations unless the fluids in the well are noncombustible and you have precluded the entry of formation hydrocarbons into the wellbore. This does not apply to welding in an approved safe-welding area.	You may not weld while you drill, complete, workover, or conduct wireline operations unless the fluids in the well are noncombustible and you have precluded the entry of formation hydrocarbons into the wellbore <b><u>by a positive overbalance toward the formation.</u></b> This does not apply to welding in an approved safe-welding area.	Clarification.
250.7	<p>What requirements apply to electrical equipment?</p> <p>The requirements in this section apply to all electrical equipment on all platforms, artificial islands, fixed structures, and their facilities.</p> <p>(a) You must classify all areas in accordance with API RP 500, Recommended Practice for Classification of Locations for Electrical Installations at Petroleum Facilities.</p> <p>(b) You must use trained and experienced personnel to maintain your electrical systems. They must have expertise</p>	<p>What requirements apply to electrical equipment?</p> <p>The requirements in this section apply to all electrical equipment on all platforms, artificial islands, fixed structures, and their facilities.</p> <p>(a) You must classify all areas in accordance with <b><u>either</u></b> API RP 500, Recommended Practice for Classification of Locations for Electrical Installations at Petroleum Facilities <b><u>Classified as Class I, Division 1 and Division 2, or API RP 505,</u></b></p>	Recognizes the latest edition of API RP500 API RP 505 as an alternative.

	<p>in area classification, distribution system, performance characteristics and operation of electrical equipment, and associated hazards.</p> <p>(c) You must install all electrical systems in accordance with API RP 14F, Recommended Practice for Design and Installation of Electrical Systems for Offshore Production Platforms. You do not have to comply with Sections 7.4, Emergency Lighting, and 9.4, Aids to Navigation Equipment.</p> <p>(d) You must use a low-tension ignition system on each engine that has electric ignition. You must design and maintain the ignition system to minimize the release of electrical energy.</p>	<p><b><u>Recommended Practice for Classification of Locations for Electrical Installations at Petroleum Facilities Classified as Class I, Zone 0, Zone 1 and Zone 2.</u></b></p> <p>(b) You must use trained and experienced personnel to maintain your electrical systems. They must have expertise in area classification, <del>distribution systems, and the</del> performance characteristics and operation of electrical equipment, <b><u>as well as and</u></b> associated hazards.</p> <p>(c) You must install all electrical systems in accordance with API RP 14F, Recommended Practice for Design and Installation of Electrical Systems for Offshore Production Platforms. You do not have to comply with Sections 7.4, Emergency Lighting, and 9.4, Aids to Navigation Equipment.</p> <p>(d) <b><u>On each engine that has an electric ignition system,</u></b> <del>You must use an low-tension ignition system on each engine that has electric ignition. You must that is designed and maintained the ignition system</del> to minimize the release of electrical energy.</p>	<p>Distribution systems are just one of many parts of the electrical system and do not need to be separately identified.</p> <p>The term “low-tension” has no technical meaning and should be eliminated, as it is not defined.</p>
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250.8	<p>(a) You must use BAST on all new exploration, development, and production operations.</p> <p>(b) You must use BAST on existing operations to avoid failure of equipment that would have a significant effect on safety, health, or the environment if the Director determines that:</p>	<p>(b) <b><u>Whenever practicable,</u></b> You must use BAST on existing operations to avoid failure of equipment that would have a significant effect on safety, health, or the environment if the Director determines that:</p>	Adds flexibility consistent with existing regulations.
250.9	To determine whether a well is capable of producing in paying quantities, submit a written request to the District Supervisor. You must then meet the criteria in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section. Once a lease has a well that MMS determines is capable of producing in paying quantities, no further determination of well producibility will be made on the lease. A determination of well producibility invokes minimum royalty status on the lease as provided in 30 CFR 202.53. If your well is located in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM), you must also meet the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section.	To determine whether a well is capable of producing in paying quantities, submit a written request to the District Supervisor. You must then meet the criteria in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section. Once a lease has a well that MMS determines is capable of producing in paying quantities, no further determination of well producibility will be made on the lease. A determination of well producibility invokes minimum royalty status on the lease as provided in 30 CFR 202.53. If your well is located in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM), you <b><u>must also may alternatively</u></b> meet the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section.	This is consistent with the present regulation found in Section 250.11(b). The intent is to provide an alternative mechanism, not to require additional requirements. If a well test is unavailable, the operator can submit data; it is not necessary to have both a well test and data. The present regulation states “In the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, the following shall also be considered collectively as reliable evidence that a well is capable of producing oil and gas in paying quantities.”
250.9 (c) (1)	...The producible section must not include any interval which appears to be water saturated.	<del>The producible section must not include any interval which appears to be water saturated.</del>	The reason for the deletion is that all reservoir rocks are to some extent water saturated. This would disqualify all reservoir rocks.
250.9 (c) (1)(iii)	A minimum true resistivity ratio of the producible section to the nearest clean water-bearing sand of at least 5:1.	A minimum true resistivity ratio of the producible section to the nearest clean <b><u>or</u></b> water-bearing sand of at least 5:1.	This would clarify this definition which has been incorrect in the existing regulations.

250.9 (c)(4)	A wireline formation test and/or mud-logging analysis which indicates that the section is capable of producing oil or gas.	A wireline formation test and/or mud-logging analysis which indicates that the section is capable of producing oil or gas <b><u>or evidence that an attempt was made to obtain such tests.</u></b>	This language which was left out in the rewrite is very critical and should be included. It is not unusual for wildcat/exploratory wells to have hole-problems when pay is exposed.
250.11	<p><b>Inspection of Operations</b></p> <p><b>Sec. 250.11 How often does MMS conduct inspections?</b></p> <p>(1) MMS conducts a scheduled onsite inspection of each offshore facility that is subject to environmental or safety regulations under the Act at least once a year. The inspection determines whether environmental protection and safety equipment designed to prevent or ameliorate blowouts, fires, spillages, or other major accidents has been installed and is operating properly.</p>	<p>(1) MMS conducts a scheduled onsite inspection of each offshore facility that is subject to environmental or safety regulations under the Act at least once a year. The inspection determines whether environmental protection and safety equipment designed to prevent or ameliorate blowouts, fires, spillages, or other major accidents has been installed and is operating properly <b><u>in accordance with the requirements of this part.</u></b></p>	Operating properly needs further definition to preclude differing interpretations. The current language in Subpart A clarifies that operating properly means in accordance with the requirements of this part. This current language should be maintained.
250.12	<p><b>Disqualification and Appeals</b></p> <p><b>Sec. 250.12 Under what conditions will MMS disqualify an operator or lessee?</b></p>	<b>Delete this section.</b>	<b>The MMS proposed language is inconsistent with the OCS Lands Act and should be deleted. If MMS plans to include this section in the final rulemaking, then it should include the criteria for determining disqualification as well as the specific procedures which includes prior notice and opportunity for a hearing.</b>

250.14 (c)	<i>Approval for departures.</i> If certain aspects of your proposed procedure or equipment deviate from or are not covered by MMS regulations, MMS may prescribe or approve exceptions from the operating requirements of this part.	<i>Approval for departures.</i> If certain aspects of your <b>operations deviate from proposed procedure or equipment deviate from or are not covered by</b> MMS regulations, MMS may prescribe or approve exceptions from the operating requirements of this part.	Clarification.
250.15 (a)	You must provide the Regional Supervisor an executed Designation of Operator form unless you are the only lessee and are the only person conducting lease operations. When there is more than one lessee then the Regional Supervisor must receive and approve the Designation of Operator form from each lessee before the designated operator may commence operations on the leasehold.	You must provide the Regional Supervisor an executed Designation of Operator form unless you are the only lessee and are the only person conducting lease operations. When there is more than one lessee then the Regional Supervisor must receive <b>and approve</b> the Designation of Operator form from each lessee before the designated operator may commence operations on the leasehold.	The existing regulation in 250.8 allows the designated operator to begin operations on the lease after the Regional Supervisor “receives” the designation of operator. The revised version contained in 250.15(a) does not allow operations to begin until after the Regional Supervisor has “received and approved” the designation. Thus, the new version appears to have imposed an additional requirement on lessees. In addition, the MMS may typically be delayed in processing these approvals and would delay changes which should take place as soon as the operators are ready.
250.15 (a)(2)	When you are no longer the designated operator, you must immediately provide in writing the termination of your Designation of Operator to the Regional Supervisor. If you are also a designated royalty payor and will not continue to be in the future, you must also notify the Royalty Management Program of the termination of your Designation of Operator.	.	It is recommended that this requirement not be included in this section and be placed in the Royalty Management Program part of the MMS regulations, since the royalty payment staff of operators do not look at this 30 CFR 250 which is an operational regulation

250.15 (d)	Whenever the regulations in 30 CFR parts 250 to 282 require the lessee to meet a requirement or perform an action, the lessee, operator (if one has been designated), and the person actually performing the activity to which the requirement applies are jointly and severally responsible for compliance with the regulation.	Whenever the regulations in 30 CFR parts 250 to 282 require the lessee to meet a requirement or perform an action, <b><u>all persons who conduct lease activities on behalf of the lessee or operator must also comply with the regulations.</u></b> <del>the lessee, operator (if one has been designated), and the person actually performing the activity to which the requirement applies are jointly and severally responsible for compliance with the regulation.</del>	As written, this section overstates the obligations of the co-lessee. Subpart (b) of the same section already makes the co-lessee responsible for fulfilling the obligation of the lessee in case of failure by the operator. The recommended language adds clarification that is consistent with the intent of the preamble.
250.16	<b>Naming and Identifying Platforms and Wells</b>  How do I name platforms and wells?	<del><b>Naming and Identifying Platforms Facilities and Wells</b></del> <b><u>(does not include MODUS)</u></b>  How do I name platforms <u>facilities</u> and wells?	The word “platform” implies a multiple legged fixed structure. With the use of caissons, spars, TLP’s and FPS’s a more appropriate term would be “facilities.” An alternative to this recommended change would be to include an applicable definition of platform. This section should not apply to MODUs that may be considered a facility when attached to the sea floor.
250.16 (a)	<i>In the Gulf of Mexico Region:</i> (1) Assign each platform a letter designation. For example, A, B, CA, or CB.	<i>In the Gulf of Mexico Region:</i> (1) Assign each <b><u>platform facility</u></b> a letter designation <b><u>except for those types of facilities identified in paragraph (a)(3) (i) of this section.</u></b> For example, A, B, CA, or CB.	The word “platform” was changed to “facility” for consistency (see above rationale for the recommended change). Furthermore, the statement “except for those type facilities identified in paragraph (a)(3) (i) of this section” was added in the recommended changes because §250.16(a)(3) (I) allows a numeric representation of single well caissons without production facilities.

<p>250.16 (a)(i)</p>	<p>After a platform is installed, rename each well that was drilled through a template and was assigned a number. Use a letter and number designation. For example, rename Well No. 1: A-1, B-1, or C-1; and</p>	<p>After a <b>platform facility</b> is installed, rename each <b>pre-drilled</b> well that was <b><u>assigned only a number and was temporarily suspended at the mudline or at the surface drilled through a template and was assigned a number.</u></b> Use a letter and number designation. <b><u>The letter used should be the same as that of the production facility and number used should correspond to the order which the well was completed, not necessarily the number assigned when it was drilled. For example, the first well completed for production on Facility A would be renamed Well A-1, the second would be Well A-2, and so on</u></b> <del>For example, rename Well No. 1: A-1, B-1, or C-1;</del> and</p>	<p>The word “platform” was changed to “facility” for consistency (see above rational for the recommended change). The word “template” would only account for those wells drilled through a drilling template, when in fact, most pre-drilled wells are suspended at mudline as casing stubs, or suspended as a caisson at the surface, while awaiting platform installation. The recommend change would account for all pre-drilled wells. The wells drilled, for completion as producers, are not necessarily the first wells drilled on a lease and would have an assigned number higher than one (1). Therefore, to account for this, we recommended that the well be assigned the sequential number given in the order it was completed for production, after the facility is installed, starting with the number one (1).</p>
<p>250.16 (a)(ii)</p>	<p>When you have more than one platform in a field (excluding complexes), include the designations for the field and use a different letter designation for each platform. For example, EC 221-A, EC 222-B, EC 223-C.</p>	<p>When you have more than one <b>platform</b> in a field (excluding complexes), include the designations for the field and use a different letter designation for each <b>platform</b>. <u>Facility on a block, each facility installed, and not bridge-connected to another facility, should be named using a different letter in sequential order.</u> For example, <del>EC 221-A, EC 222-B, EC 223-C</del> <u>EC222A, EC222B, EC222C.</u></p>	<p>See comments for 250.16 (a) (iii).</p>

250.16 (a)(iii)	<b>NEW</b>	<b>ADD</b> <b>(iii) <u>When you have more than one facility on multiple blocks in a local area that are being co-developed, each facility installed, and not connected with a walkway to another facility, should be named using a different letter in sequential order with the block number corresponding to the block on which the platform is located. For example, EC 221 A, EC 222 B and EC 223 C.</u></b>	The proposed draft only addresses more than one facility on multiple blocks or in a field. However, the recommended change accounts for multiple facilities on a single block. We recommend that a separate paragraph be added to address this scenario. The word “field” and the word “complexes” have very broad definitions. Therefore, we recommend the language change or an accurate definition of these terms as they apply to this section be added to this subpart.
250.16 (a)(3)(i)	For single well caissons that are not attached to a platform with a walkway, use the well designation. For example, Well No. 1;	For single well caissons that are not attached to a <b>platform facility</b> with a walkway, use the well designation. For example, Well No. 1;	Clarification.
250.16 (a)(3)(ii)	For single well caissons that are attached to a platform with a walkway, use the same designation as the platform. For example, rename Well No. 10 as A-10; and	For single well caissons that are attached to a <b>platform facility</b> with a walkway, use the same designation as the platform. For example, rename Well No. 10 as A-10; and	Clarification.
250.16 (a)(3)(iii)	For single well caissons with production equipment, use a letter designation. For example, Well No. 1 as A-1.	For single well caissons with production equipment use a letter designation <b><u>for the facility name and a letter plus number designation for the well.</u></b> For example, <b><u>the Well No. 1 caisson would be designated as Facility A, and the well would be Well as A-1.</u></b>	The intention of this paragraph is to use the letter designation for those caissons with substantial processing equipment. Furthermore, this requirement should not only outline the requirement for well naming but also the facility name. As proposed, the caisson would be named Well A-1, not Facility A.

250.16 (d)	<b>NEW</b>	<b>ADDITION:</b> <b><u>All facilities installed and wells drilled prior to the effective date of this revision do not need to be renamed if they do not meet the naming criteria outlined in this section.</u></b>	Due to the enormous administrative and economic burden that would be placed on the industry and the MMS, existing structures should be allowed to retain their current names, if they do meet the requirements outlined herein.
250.17 (a)	<b>What identification signs must I display?</b> You must identify all platforms, structures, artificial islands, and mobile drilling units with a sign.	You must identify all <b>facilities</b> <del>platforms, structures,</del> artificial islands, and mobile drilling units with a sign.	Clarification.
250.17 (a)(2)	(2) When helicopter landing facilities are present, you must display an additional identification sign that is visible from the air. The sign must use at least 12-inch letters and figures, and must also display the weight capacity of the helipad. If this sign is visible to both helicopter and boat traffic, then the sign in paragraph (a)(1) of this section is not required.	(2) When helicopter landing facilities are present, you must display an additional identification sign that is visible from the air. The sign must use at least 12-inch letters and figures, <del>and must also display the weight capacity of the helipad.</del> If this sign is visible to both helicopter and boat traffic, then the sign in paragraph (a)(1) of this section is not required.	Weight capacity is not necessary for platform identification and would not be visible on the signs. Weight capacity is customarily noted on the top of the helipad.
250.17 (a)(3)(ii)	In the GOM OCS Region, list the area designation or abbreviation and the block number of the platform location as depicted on OCS Official Protraction Diagrams or leasing maps;	In the GOM OCS Region, list the area designation or abbreviation and the block number of the <b>platform facility</b> location as depicted on OCS Official Protraction Diagrams or leasing maps;	This requirement applies to both mobile drilling units and all facilities.
250.17 (b)(2)	For wells with multiple completions, identify each completion individually at the wellhead; and	For wells with multiple completions, <b><u>downhole splitter wells, and multilateral wells,</u></b> identify each completion <b><u>in addition to the well name and lease number</u></b> individually <b><u>on the well flowline</u></b> at the wellhead; and	We recommend the inclusion of downhole splitter wells and multilateral wells which are unique completions identified by the MMS in NTL 97-2N. Furthermore, we believe the lease and well name need to be identified in addition to the completion code on the flowline of each completion.

250.17 (b)(3)	For subsea wellheads, affix the required sign on the flowline that connects to the pipeline that connects to the subsea well at a convenient location on the receiving platform.	For subsea <del>wellheads</del> <b><u>wells which flow individually into separate pipelines</u></b> , affix the required sign on the <b><u>pipeline or surface</u></b> flowline that <del>connects to the pipeline</del> <b><u>is dedicated to that</u></b> subsea well at a convenient location on the receiving platform. <b><u>For multiple subsea wells which flow into a common pipeline or pipelines, no sign is required.</u></b>	The recommended change lends clarity to situations where numerous subsea wells flow into a single pipeline. Furthermore, we believe it is not practical to separately identify each subsea well flowing into a single pipeline.
250.17 (c)	Each identifying sign must be visible to approaching traffic and maintained in a legible condition.	Each identifying sign <del>must be visible to approaching traffic and</del> maintained in a legible condition.	Redundant.
250.18 (a)(1)(ii)	Used for conducting exploration, development, and production activities or other operations on your lease.	Used for conducting exploration, development, and production activities or other operations. <del>on your lease.</del>	Limiting the right-of-way and easement to an owned lease is too limiting. In deep water subsea projects, development may dictate that several leases flow to a single platform. Under these circumstances, the right-of-way may continue and be needed even after the platform owner has ceased production.
250.19 (i)	MMS must receive the request before the lease term ends.	MMS must receive the request before the lease term ends <u>unless the lease is held by operations.</u>	The way that this subsection was reworded, this existing provision was omitted. It is possible to have a lease that is about to expire held by operations (such as drilling) which automatically extends the term of the lease until that period ends.

250.19 (j)(1)	This subsection outlines the circumstances for which the Regional Supervisor may grant or direct a suspension. ....	<b><u>(6) When needed to comply with a Presidential decree or directive.</u></b>	In recent times, Presidential decrees have required cessation of activity on the West Coast, portions of Offshore Florida, and the East Coast. When the Executive Department requires this, it should be included as a cause for an MMS-directed suspension which extends the lease term.
250.19 (j)(2)	When activities pose a threat of serious, irreparable, or immediate harm. This would include damage to life (including fish and other aquatic life), property, any mineral deposit, or the marine, coastal, or human environment. MMS may require you to do a site-specific study (see Sec. 250.19 (o)(1));	When activities pose a threat of serious, irreparable, or immediate harm. This would include damage to life (including fish and other aquatic life), property, any mineral deposit, or the marine, coastal, or human environment. <del>MMS may require you to do a site-specific study (see Sec. 250.19 (o)(1));</del>	This requirement to perform an on-site specific study should be founded on something other than the discretionary authority of the MMS to grant a suspension. The cost of on-site surveys can be quite high, often benefit the entire area as opposed to an individual lease, and MMS has demonstrated no statutory authority to impose such excess costs as a condition of exercising leaseholds rights granted under the lease.
250.19 (l)	The Regional Supervisor may grant or direct an SOP when: the suspension is in the national interest; you have exercised diligence in pursuing production; the lease was drilled and a well was determined to be producible in accordance with 30 CFR 250.9 or 250.253; and it is necessary because the suspension will meet one of the following criteria:	The Regional Supervisor may grant or direct an SOP <b><u>and/or an SOO</u></b> when: the suspension is in the national interest; <del>you have exercised diligence in pursuing production</del> ; the lease was drilled and a well was determined to be producible in accordance with 30 CFR 250.9 or 250.253; and it is necessary because the suspension will meet one of the following criteria:	This change is necessary in order to correctly mirror current 30 CFR 250.10 which provides for not only suspension of production but a suspension of operations as well. The requirement to exercise diligence in production appears to already have been met by the requirement to have the producible well present. No criteria have been identified to determine diligence in production. Once the lease is in a producible status, by declaration of a producible well, this criteria seems to have already been met.

250.19 (l)(3)	It will allow you a reasonable amount of time to enter a sales contract for oil, gas, or sulphur. You must show that you are making a good faith effort to enter into the contract(s);	It will allow you a reasonable amount of time to enter a sales <b><u>or transportation</u></b> contract for oil, gas, or sulphur. You must show that you are making a good faith effort to enter into the contract(s);	In today's gas environment, the transportation contract is as important as a sales contract; therefore the regulatory language should include both.
250.19 (o)(1)	Conduct a site-specific study(s);	<del>Conduct a site-specific study(s);</del>	This requirement to perform an on-site specific study should be founded on something other than the discretionary authority of the MMS to grant a suspension. The cost of on-site surveys can be quite high, often benefit the entire area as opposed to an individual lease, and MMS has demonstrated no statutory authority to impose such excess costs as a condition of exercising leaseholds rights granted under the lease.

<p>Sec. 250.20</p>	<p><b>What accident reports and evacuation statistics must I submit?</b></p>	<p>Except for requirements to report oil spills, delete all other reporting requirements and incorporate recommendations of the USCG NOSAC Incident Reporting Subcommittee established on April 22, 1998 consisting of MMS, USCG and industry personnel.</p>	<p>Definitions of accidents are inconsistent with those used in SEMP (NTL 98 -6N) and those required by the USCG for similar incidents. These proposed regulations in many cases duplicate reporting requirements of the United States Coast Guard. At a meeting of NOSAC (National Offshore Advisory Committee) in Washington on April 22, 1998, a Subcommittee was established to review and recommend changes to improve the process of defining and reporting incidents to the MMS and the USCG. This effort was endorsed by Carolita Kallour, Associate Director for Offshore Minerals Management. Recommendations will be completed by October 1998.</p> <p>Significant administrative burden would be added to all operators if this proposed regulation was implemented. This would be the most expedient method to resolve this issue and avoid OMB and other intervention in adding this administrative burden to operators and contractors.</p>
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250.20 (a)	Subsection (a) also requires the reporting of all other fires.	Industry has expressed concerns to the MMS that "fires" needs to be better defined since industry has confusion on what needs to be reported. We recommend that the MMS include a description or definition for what a fire is and what types of fires they expect to receive in the reports.	To avoid uncertainty, the rule should include the definition, especially when the MMS is planning to use fires as one of the criteria included with the disqualification procedures found in this proposed rule in Section 250.12. The preamble states that more guidance will be given in an NTL. We prefer that the language be included in a rule.
250.20 (a)	Subsection (a) requires the Operator to submit a written report with information on the accident, fire, etc.	The MMS should include language that allows the Operator to submit this information marked "Confidential" and the MMS to maintain it in such a way without divulging the details that may be involved in legal action	The MMS should respect the confidentiality and sensitivity of information marked "Confidential" as they do with other information they receive from operators.
250.20 (a)(1)	This subsection outlines the reporting of accidents for easements and right-of-ways.	We recommend that this subsection qualify that the operation must be related to the exercise of the easement, right-of-way, or other permit.	It would be impossible for a pipeline right-of-way owner to be aware of any accidents which might happen to occur within the pipeline right-of-way corridor which did not directly influence or impact the exercise of the right-of-way itself.
250.20 (a)(2)	This subsection outlines the process of investigations conducted after a serious accident.	We recommend that the final rule qualify the investigative authority so that it is not exercised by both the Department of Transportation's United States Coast Guard and The Department of Interior's MMS.	The cited portions of the OCS Lands Act specify that either the Secretary or the U.S. Coast Guard may institute investigations but not both. This limitation must be contained in the regulations in order for them to be lawful.

250.20 (a)(2)	This subsection outlines the process for questioning persons giving testimony.	We recommend that the striking of the provision which only allows panel members and panel experts to address questions to the person giving testimony.	This provision violates the provisions of Section 22(f) of the OCS Lands Act which requires that the production of documents and the handling of testimony and witnesses be analogous to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The Federal Rules Of Civil Procedure give the party at risk for citation the opportunity to participate in questioning of witnesses in the course of any hearing.
250.20 (b)	Subsection (b) includes new requirements for submittal to MMS on evacuation statistics.	The MMS should clarify that they want to get personnel evacuation numbers only, to avoid uncertainty. Also, the MMS should add the words "as conditions allow" immediately after (b)(2) after "11 AM" in this sentence.	The MMS should clarify what they need since the word "statistics" is not defined. In addition, the MMS needs to understand the critical nature and plans that require full operator attention for safe evacuation of personnel, ensuring the operations are safely and environmentally shut-in, housing the evacuated personnel, and ensuring the safety of office management/staff. This process must have higher priority than reporting "statistics" by 11 AM during the period of shut-in and evacuation. MMS offices are also evacuated when natural events such as hurricanes approach populated areas, so the 'statistics" would probably not be accessible.

250.21	Any person may report to MMS an apparent violation or failure to comply with any provision of the Act, any provision of a lease, license, or permit issued under the Act, or any provision of any regulation or order issued under the Act. When MMS receives a report of an apparent violation, or when an MMS employee detects an apparent violation, MMS will investigate in accordance with its procedures.	Any person may report to MMS an apparent violation or failure to comply with any provision of the Act, any provision of a lease, license, or permit issued under the Act, or any provision of any regulation or order issued under the Act. When MMS receives a report of an apparent violation, or when an MMS employee detects an apparent violation, <b><u>after making a determination of the validity,</u></b> MMS will investigate in accordance with its procedures.	This will prevent the MMS from being forced to investigate frivolous or baseless allegations which are apparent on their face.
250.23 (a)	Your lease expires at the end of its primary term unless you are producing in paying quantities or conducting drilling or well-reworking operations on your lease (see 30 CFR part 256). The objective of the drilling or well-reworking operations must be to establish continuous production on the lease. For purposes of this section, the term <i>operations</i> means <i>continuous</i> production, drilling, or well-reworking.	Your lease expires at the end of its primary term unless you are producing in paying quantities or conducting drilling or well-reworking operations on your lease (see 30 CFR part 256). The objective of the drilling or well-reworking operations must be to establish continuous production on the lease. For purposes of this section, the term <i>operations</i> means <b><i>continuous</i></b> production, drilling, or well-reworking.	Ordinary oil and gas principles extend a lease provided a continuous exploratory drilling program is in operation. The present wording does not appear to include this fact, but instead focuses solely on production or the re-institution of production itself. A lessee could maintain a lease by a continual and diligent exploratory program through continuous drilling activity. This concept is missing in the proposed rule. In addition, the last sentence as is will cause confusion and it contradicts the remainder of Section 250.23. It is possible during drilling or well-reworking to start and stop operations within the 180-day clock, such as to get different equipment, personnel, other operations on the platform, etc. As long as the word “continuous” is there, it can be interpreted as being on-going and not allowing for start and stops. This is unrealistic with regard to how offshore operations take place.

250.25	When will MMS reimburse me for reproduction costs?	When will MMS reimburse me for reproduction, <u>processing, and other</u> costs?	<b>Since the reimbursement provision is for other areas than reproduction, it will be easier for the operator to find this section.</b>
250.27 (b) Table	<p><b>MMS will disclose information not collected on MMS forms in accordance with the following table: if--</b>  Your lease is no longer in effect  Your lease is still in effect  MMS will release --  Geophysical data, geological data, processed and reprocessed geophysical information, interpreted G&amp;G information, analyzed geological information.  At this time --  When your lease terminates or 10 years after the date you submit the data whichever is earlier.</p> <p>10 years after the date you submit</p>	<p>When your lease terminates or <del>10</del> <b>15</b> years after the date you submit the data whichever is earlier.</p> <p><del>10</del><b>15</b> years after the date you submit it.</p>	<p>Ten years is not enough in the case of deepwater leases (deep water leases have a 10 year primary term) where an exploratory well is drilled, an SOP obtained pending development. Same as above. In addition, there could exist open acreage next to a lease that has not been fully developed since operations in deep water tend to be more complex.</p>
250.27 (b) Table	<p><b>(b) MMS will disclose information not collected on MMS forms in accordance with the following table: if--The director determines that data and information are needed for specific scientific or research purposes for the Government MMS will release --- Geophysical data, geological data, interpreted G&amp;G information, processed and reprocessed geophysical information, analyzed</b></p>	<p><b>MMS will disclose information not collected on MMS forms in accordance with the following table: if--The director determines that data and information are needed for specific scientific or research purposes for the Government MMS will release --- Geophysical data, geological data, interpreted G&amp;G information,</b></p>	<p>Operator should have the opportunity to review the current situation and decide whether or not release of the data would jeopardize its competitive position.</p>

	<p><b>geological information.</b>  <b>At this time ---</b>  Anytime  Add'l provisions ---  MMS will release data and information only if release would further the national interest without unduly damaging the competitive position of the lessee.</p>	<p><b>processed and reprocessed geophysical information, analyzed geological information.</b>  <b>At this time ---</b>  Anytime  Add'l provisions ---  MMS will release data and information <u>with the review and consent of the lessee</u> only if release would further the national interest without unduly damaging the competitive position of the lessee.</p>	
250.27 (b) Table	<p><b>MMS will disclose information not collected on MMS forms in accordance with the following table:</b> if --- Your lease is still in effect and within the primary term specified in the lease. <b>MMS will release ---</b> Geological data, analyzed geological information. <b>At this time --- 2 years</b> after you submit it or 60 days after a lease sale if any portion of an offered block is within 50 miles of a well, whichever is later.</p>	<p><b>2 10</b> years after you submit it or 60 days after a lease sale if any portion of an offered block is within 50 miles of a well, whichever is later.</p>	<p>Two years is not enough in the case of deepwater leases (deep water leases have a 10 year primary term) where an exploratory well is drilled, an SOP obtained pending development. Same as above. In addition, there could exist open acreage next to a lease that has not been fully developed since operations in deep water tend to be more complex.</p>
250.28	<p><b>API RP 2A, Twentieth Edition-----Stock No. 811-00200</b></p>	<p><b>API RP 2A, Twentieth Edition-----Stock No. 811-G00200</b></p>	<p>Change in Stock Number</p>
250.28	<p><b>API RP 2A, Supplement 1-----Stock No. 811-00200</b></p>	<p><b>API RP2A, Supplement 1-----Stock No. 811- G00205</b></p>	<p>Change in Stock Number</p>

250.28	<b>API RP 500, Classification of Locations for Electrical Installations at Petroleum Facilities, First Edition, June 1, 1991</b>	<b>API RP 500, Classification of Locations for Electrical Installations at Petroleum Facilities, <del>First</del> <u>Second</u> Edition, <del>June 1, 1991</del> <u>November 1997</u> <u>API Stock No. C50002</u></b>	New edition published; previous edition out of print.
250.28	<b>API Spec Q1, .....Stock Number 811 00001</b>	<b>Stock Number <del>811 00001</del> <u>GQ1005</u></b>	Change in Stock Number
250.28	<b>API RP 14C, Fourth Edition, September 1, 1986-----Stock No. 81107180</b>	<b>API RP 14C, <del>Fourth Edition, September 1, 1986-----Stock No. 81107180</del> <u>Sixth Edition, Mar, 1998, API Stock No. G14C06</u></b>	Updated edition under review by MMS for incorporation by reference.
250.28	API Spec 14D, Specification for Wellhead Surface Safety Valves and Underwater Safety Valves for Offshore Service, Ninth Edition, June 1, 1994, with Errata dated August 1, 1994, API Stock No. G07183.	<b><del>API Spec 14D, Specification for Wellhead Surface Safety Valves and Underwater Safety Valves for Offshore Service, Ninth Edition, June 1, 1994, with Errata dated August 1, 1994, API Stock No. G07183.</del></b>	Specification now a part of API Spec 6A; Spec 14D has been withdrawn.
250.28	API Standard 2545, Method of Gaging Petroleum and Petroleum Products, October 1965, reaffirmed October 1992; also available as ANSI/American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) D 1085-65, API Stock No. H25450.	<b><del>API Standard 2545, Method of Gaging Petroleum and Petroleum Products, October 1965, reaffirmed October 1992; also available as</del> <u>Manual of Petroleum Measurement Standards (MPMS), Chapter 3.1A and 3.1B.</u> ANSI/American Society of Testing Materials <del>(ASTM) D 1085-65,</del> API Stock No. H25450.</b>	Standard has been incorporated in MPMS; no longer joint standard with ASTM.

250.28	API Standard 2551, Standard Method for Measurement and Calibration of Horizontal Tanks, First Edition, 1965, reaffirmed October 1992; also available as ANSI/ASTM D 1410-65, reapproved 1984, API Stock No. H25510.	API Standard 2551, Standard Method for Measurement and Calibration of Horizontal Tanks, First Edition, 1965, reaffirmed <del>October 1992</del> <b>January 1997</b> ; also available as <del>ANSI/ASTM D 1410-65, reapproved 1984,</del> API Stock No. H25510.	No longer a joint standard with ASTM.
250.28	API Standard 2552, Measurement and Calibration of Spheres and Spheroids, First Edition, 1966, reaffirmed October 1992; also available as ANSI/ASTM D 1408-65, reapproved 1984, API Stock No. H25520.	API Standard 2552, Measurement and Calibration of Spheres and Spheroids, First Edition, 1966, reaffirmed <del>October 1992</del> <b>January 1997</b> ; <del>also available as ANSI/ASTM D 1408-65, reapproved 1984,</del> API Stock No. H25520.	No longer a joint standard with ASTM.
250.28	API Standard 2555, Method for Liquid Calibration of Tanks, September 1966, reaffirmed October 1992; also available as ANSI/ASTM D 1406-65, reapproved 1984, API Stock No.	API Standard 2555, Method for Liquid Calibration of Tanks, September 1966, reaffirmed <del>October 1992</del> <b>January 1997</b> ; <del>also available as ANSI/ASTM D 1406-65, reapproved 1984,</del> API Stock No. H25550	No longer a joint standard with ASTM.
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 2, Section 2B, Calibration of Upright Cylindrical Tanks Using the Optical Reference Line Method, First Edition, March 1989; also available as ANSI/ASTM D4738-88, API Stock No. H30023.	MPMS, Chapter 2, Section 2B, Calibration of Upright Cylindrical Tanks Using the Optical Reference Line Method, First Edition, March 1989 <del>reaffirmed May 1997</del> ; <del>also available as ANSI/ASTM D4738-88,</del> API Stock No. H30023.	No longer a joint standard with ASTM
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 3, Section 1B, Standard Practice for Level Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbons in Stationary Tanks by Automatic Tank Gauging, First Edition, April 1992, API Stock No. H30060.	MPMS, Chapter 3, Section 1B, Standard Practice for Level Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbons in Stationary Tanks by Automatic Tank Gauging, First Edition, <b>reaffirmed January 1997</b> April 1992, API Stock No. H30060.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.

250.28	MPMS, Chapter 4, Section 7, Field-Standard Test Measures, First Edition, October 1988, API Stock No. H30087.	MPMS, Chapter 4, Section 7, Field-Standard Test Measures, First Edition, October 1988, <b>reaffirmed March 1993</b> API Stock No. 30087.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 6, Metering Assemblies, Section 1, Lease Automatic Custody Transfer (LACT) Systems, Second Edition, May 1991, API Stock No. H30121.	MPMS, Chapter 6, Metering Assemblies, Section 1, Lease Automatic Custody Transfer (LACT) Systems, Second Edition, May 1991, <b>reaffirmed July 1996</b> API Stock No. H30121.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 6, Section 6, Pipeline Metering Systems, Second Edition, May 1991, API Stock No. H30126	MPMS, Chapter 6, Section 6, Pipeline Metering Systems, Second Edition, May 1991, <b>reaffirmed July 1996</b> , API Stock No. H30126	Reaffirmed by industry committee.
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 7, Section 3, Static Temperature Determination Using Portable Electronic Thermometers, First Edition, July 1985, reaffirmed March 1990, API Stock No. H30143.	MPMS, Chapter 7, Section 3, Static Temperature Determination Using Portable Electronic Thermometers, First Edition, July 1985, <del>reaffirmed March 1990</del> , <b>reaffirmed May 1996</b> API Stock No. H30143.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 10, Section 4, Determination of Sediment and Water in Crude Oil by the Centrifuge Method (Field Procedure), Second Edition, May 1988; also available as ANSI/ASTM D 96, API Stock No. H30204.	MPMS, Chapter 10, Section 4, Determination of Sediment and Water in Crude Oil by the Centrifuge Method (Field Procedure), Second Edition, May 1988, <b>reaffirmed May 1998</b> ; also available as ANSI/ASTM D 96, API Stock No. H30204.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.

250.28	MPMS, Chapter 11.1, Volume Correction Factors, Volume 1, Table 5A--Generalized Crude Oils and JP-4 Correction of Observed API Gravity to API Gravity at 60 deg.F, and Table 6A--Generalized Crude Oils and JP-4 Correction of Observed API Gravity to API Gravity at 60 deg.F, First Edition, August 1980, reaffirmed October 1993; also available as ANSI/ASTM D 1250, API Stock No. H27000.	MPMS, Chapter 11.1, Volume Correction Factors, Volume 1, Table 5A--Generalized Crude Oils and JP-4 Correction of Observed API Gravity to API Gravity at 60 deg.F, and Table 6A--Generalized Crude Oils and JP-4 Correction of Observed API Gravity to API Gravity at 60 deg.F, First Edition, August 1980, <del>reaffirmed October 1993</del> <del>reaffirmed March 1997</del> ; also available as ANSI/ASTM D 1250, API Stock No. H27000.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 11, Physical Properties Data, Addendum to Section 2.2, Compressibility Factors for Hydrocarbons, Correlation of Vapor Pressure for Commercial Natural Gas Liquids, First Edition, December 1994; also available as GPA TP-15, API Stock No. H27308.	MPMS, Chapter 11, Physical Properties Data, Addendum to Section 2.2, Compressibility Factors for Hydrocarbons, Correlation of Vapor Pressure for Commercial Natural Gas Liquids, First Edition, December 1994, <del>reaffirmed March 1997</del> ; also available as GPA TP-15, API Stock No. H27308.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.
250.28	<b>NEW</b>	<b>Add</b> <b><u>Chapter 14, Natural Gas Fluids Measurement, Section 1, Collecting and Handling of Natural Gas Samples for Custody Transfer, Fourth Edition, August 1993, API Stock No. H30341.</u></b>	Standard was developed and funded jointly by MMS, Gas Research Institute, and Industry to develop enhanced sampling procedures for gas royalty and production measurement.

250.28	MPMS, Chapter 14, Natural Gas Fluids Measurement, Section 3, Concentric Square-Edged Orifice Meters, Part 1, General Equations and Uncertainty Guidelines, Third Edition, September 1990; also available as ANSI/API 2530, Part 1, 1991, API Stock No. H30350.	MPMS, Chapter 14, Natural Gas Fluids Measurement, Section 3, Concentric Square-Edged Orifice Meters, Part 1, General Equations and Uncertainty Guidelines, Third Edition, September 1990, <b>reaffirmed August 1995</b> ; also available as ANSI/API 2530, Part 1, 1991, API Stock No. H30350.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 14, Section 3, Part 2, Specification and Installation Requirements, Third Edition, February 1991; also available as ANSI/API 2530, Part 2, 1991, API Stock No. H30351.	MPMS, Chapter 14, Section 3, Part 2, Specification and Installation Requirements, Third Edition, February 1991, <b>reaffirmed May 1996</b> ; also available as ANSI/API 2530, Part 2, 1991, API Stock No. H30351.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 14, Section 6, Continuous Density Measurement, Second Edition, April 1991, API Stock No. H30346.	MPMS, Chapter 14, Section 6, Continuous Density Measurement, Second Edition, April 1991, <b>reaffirmed May 1998</b> ; API Stock No. H30346.	Reaffirmed by industry committee.
250.28	MPMS, Chapter 14, Section 8, Liquefied Petroleum Gas Measurement, First Edition, February 1983, reaffirmed May 1996, API Stock No. H30348	MPMS, Chapter 14, Section 8, Liquefied Petroleum Gas Measurement, <del>First Edition, February 1983</del> <b>Second Edition, July 1997</b> , reaffirmed May 1996, API Stock No. H30348	New edition published.
250.28	<b>NEW</b>	<b>Chapter 20, Allocation Measurement, Section 1, Allocation Measurement, First Edition, August 1993, API Stock No. H30701</b>	This standard establishes an acceptable range of precision for allocation measurement.
250.28	<b>NEW</b>	<b>Chapter 21, Flow Measurement Using Electronic Metering Systems, Section 1, Electronic Gas Measurement, First Edition, August 1993, API Stock No. H30730.</b>	This standard covers electronic gas flow measurement systems implementing the Chapter 14.3 (AGA No. 3) natural gas orifice metering and AGA No. 8 compressibility factors standards that are included in the current OCS gas production measurement.
250.28	<b>NEW</b>	<b>Supplement 2, December 1, 1997, to:</b>	The supplement incorporates revisions

		<b>API Specification 6D, Specification for Pipeline Valves (Gate, Ball, Plug and Check Valves), 21st Edition, March 1994.</b>	previously published in the December 1996 Supplement 1, includes some editorial corrections, and adds provisions for acceptable leak rates in the optional air seat test.
250.28	<b>NEW</b>	<b>Supplement 1, December 15, 1997, to: API Specification 14A, Specification for Subsurface Safety Valve Equipment, Ninth Edition, July 1, 1994.</b>	The supplement represents the consensus of participating users and manufacturers that the 3 year requalification test is no longer technically justifiable; and that strengthened definition of changes that require requalification, and the maturity of the API Q1 Quality program, provide adequate checks on design creep.
250.28	<b>NEW</b>	<b>API RP 505, <i>Classification of Locations for Electrical Installations at Petroleum Facilities Classified as Class 1, Zone 0, Zone 1, and Zone 2</i> First Edition, November 1997, API Stock No. C50501</b>	This standard is presently under review by MMS and provides a Zone classification method that is consistent with the NEC.
250.28	<b>NEW</b>	<b>API RP 510</b>	API RP 510 covers the maintenance inspection, repair, alteration, and rerating of pressure vessels used in the petroleum and chemical process industries. The incorporation of this RP in 30CFR 123(a) would supplement and be more applicable to repair of existing pressure vessels than the provisions of ASME Boiler and pressure Vessel Code section VIII which focuses on the fabrication and construction of pressure vessels.

<p>256.73 (a)</p>	<p>a) Normally, a suspension extends the term of a lease. The extension is equal to the length of time the suspension is in effect. The suspension will not extend the lease term when the Regional Supervisor directs a suspension because of:</p>	<p>a) <del>Normally, a</del> <b>A</b> suspension extends the term of a lease. The extension is equal to the length of time the suspension is in effect. The suspension will not extend the lease term when the Regional Supervisor directs a suspension because of:</p>	<p>The existing Section 256.73(a) clearly states the primary term of the lease will be extended if the lessee is granted an SOO or SOP pursuant to 30 CFR 250.10(a), (b)(2) through (b)(7), or (c). This very clear and concise provision has been rewritten to state that a suspension “normally” extends the term of a lease. Since the term “normally” is not defined, the net result of this change is a provision that is less specific.</p>
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