

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE**

NTL No. 2008-G22

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NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL, GAS, AND SULPHUR
LEASES IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

**Information Guidance for Availability of Well Data and Information
Through the Gulf of Mexico Region Online Ordering System**

This Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) provides the availability date of well data and information submitted to the Minerals Management Service (MMS) as described in NTL No. 2006-G16, effective July 15, 2006. Release of data and information to the public is required by 30 CFR 250.197.

MMS collects, verifies, and stores data and information by the well's unique 12-digit American Petroleum Institute (API) number assigned by the MMS. MMS uses the data and information collected to make informed regulatory decisions based on complete and accurate well records.

Availability of Data and Information

The well data and information available to the public under 30 CFR 250.197 is based upon the determination of whether it is analyzed or interpreted information. This publicly available data and information is currently, and will continue to be, available through the Gulf of Mexico Region Public Information Office. As of November 19, 2008 much of the data and information will also be made available through the Gulf of Mexico Region Online Ordering System (www.gomr.mms.gov/WebStore/master.asp). However, the availability of well data and information through the Online Ordering System is based on the well data and information type as described below due to resource limitations. Additionally, the Online Ordering System release will be accomplished through a phased approach due to the quantities of data and information being processed. As a digital/image file of the data and information is made available and processed, it will be added to the Online Ordering System using the guidelines below.

For leases that are **still in effect**, the availability of well data and information to the public through the Online Ordering System is based on the data and information type according to the following schedule:

Well Log	2 Years after required submittal date*
Directional Survey	2 Years after required submittal date*
Mudlog	2 Years after required submittal date*
Core (Sidewall)	2 Years after required submittal date*
Core (Conventional)	10 Years after required submittal date*
Geochemical	10 Years after required submittal date*
Paleontological	10 Years after required submittal date*
Velocity	10 Years after required submittal date*
PVT	10 Years after required submittal date*

* An additional 30 days are required for processing data.

If the lease is **no longer in effect**, the availability of the well data and information to the public through the Online Ordering System will be determined by the earlier of the following 2 criteria:

- 1) Availability times as determined in the table above.
- 2) 60 days after the termination date of the lease, to allow time for appeal rights to be exhausted and for processing data. If the lease status is under appeal or litigation, then availability of well data and information will be withheld pending the resolution of the lease status.

Submittal of Well Data and Information

The submittal of well data and information as described in NTL No. 2006-G16 has not changed. It is important that data and information be submitted based on the 12-digit API number so that all pertinent and appropriate data and information are released with the correct borehole. When wells are Sidetracked and/or Bypassed, data and information combined with the previous borehole is accepted, provided the previous borehole's data and information has already been submitted. For example, a well has been Bypassed twice giving three boreholes (00, 01, 02). The 01 borehole data and information may be submitted with the combined 00 data, provided the data and information from the 00 has already been submitted. The 02 borehole data and information may be submitted with the 00 and 01 borehole data and information provided both were previously submitted. If only one composited report/analysis is submitted for all three boreholes, then the data and information will be released to the public based on the earliest boreholes' release date. We will continue to enforce compliance of data and information submittal based on the 12 digit API number.

If data and information from a data type with a 10 year release date is combined with a data type with a 2 year release date, the data and information will be returned to the submitter, in order for the data and information to be separated, so that the data and information will be released according to the above schedule.

Guidance Document Statement

The MMS issues NTL's as guidance documents in accordance with 30 CFR 250.103 to clarify, supplement, and provide more detail about certain MMS regulatory requirements. Under that authority, this NTL sets forth a policy on and an interpretation of a regulatory requirement that provides a clear and consistent approach to complying with that requirement.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement: The collection of information referred to in this NTL provides clarification, description, or interpretation of requirements contained in 30 CFR 250. This NTL does not impose additional information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

MMS GOMR Contact: If you have any questions on this NTL, you may contact **Steve Kennedy** by e-mail at stephen.kennedy@mms.gov or by telephone at (504) 731-7821

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