

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE
GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION**

NTL No. 2009-G05

Effective Date: April 27, 2009
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NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL, GAS, AND SULPHUR
LEASES IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF, GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION

Approval of Acidizing Operations

This Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) supersedes Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) No. 99-G11, effective June 7, 1999, on this subject. It updates terminology and contact information and includes a guidance document statement.

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) regulation at 30 CFR 250.601 lists the well-workover operations you may conduct with the tree installed that are defined as routine. According to 30 CFR 250.613, you can conduct these routine well-workover operations without MMS approval. On the other hand, you may not conduct any well-workover operation that is not routine without MMS approval. Since it is not listed at 30 CFR 250.601 as routine, acidizing is one of those well-workover operations that requires prior MMS approval of Form MMS-124, Application for Permit to Modify (APM).

In practice, though, acidizing operations using the bullheading method are performed routinely and do not change the wellbore configuration. Therefore, the MMS Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (GOMR) has determined that acidizing operations using the bullheading method are routine operations even though they are not listed at 30 CFR 250.601. Consequently, you do not need to obtain MMS GOMR approval before you can conduct such operations.

Please be advised, however, that any acidizing operations using a coiled tubing unit are considered non-routine and do require prior MMS GOMR approval of Form MMS-124.

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 and to outline the information you provide in your various submittals. 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. However, if you wish to use an alternate approach for compliance, you may do so, after you receive approval from the appropriate MMS office under 30 CFR 250.141.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement

The information collection referred to in this NTL provides clarification, description, or interpretation of requirements contained in 30 CFR 250, subpart F. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the information collection requirements for subpart F and assigned OMB Control Number 1010-0043. This NTL does not impose any additional information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

Contact

Contact the Workover Engineer in the appropriate MMS GOMR district office if you have any questions regarding this NTL.

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Lars T. Herbst
Regional Director