

## Implementation of the Energy Policy Act of 2005

Contacts:

L. Poe Leggette, *Partner*, Washington, D.C. pleggette@fulbright.com • (202) 662-4646

Bret A. Sumner, *Sr. Associate*, Washington, D.C. bsumner@fulbright.com • (202) 662-4782

SECTION	SUBJECT	DEPARTMENT OR BUREAU	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS TAKEN TO DATE
Sec. 310	Strategic Petroleum Reserve	DOE	DOE will prepare an EIS in response to the EPA of 2005's requirement to fill the strategic petroleum reserve to its authorized 1 billion barrel capacity. 70 Fed. Reg. 52088 (Sept. 1 2005).
Sec. 311	LNG Permits	DOE	FERC is required to promulgate new regulations on the NEPA pre-filing process for LNG projects. On October 18, 2005, FERC published the final rule of the pre-filing procedures for the review process before filing an application to construct a liquefied natural gas terminal. <i>See</i> 70 Fed. Reg. 60426, 60440 (Oct. 7, 2005).
Sec. 331- 334	Naval Petroleum Reserve	BLM	On September 26, 2005, BLM published a notice of intent to prepare an amendment to the Caliente RMP. See 70 Fed. Reg. 56185 (Sept. 26 2005). The EPA of 2005 transferred management of the Naval Petroleum Reserve # 2 in Kern County, CA to the BLM from the DOE.
Sec. 343	Royalty Relief	BLM, MMS	BLM's final rule will terminate royalty relief for stripper wells in February 2006. <i>See</i> 70 Fed. Reg. 53072 (Sept. 7, 2005). Operators will be required to keep well records for 7 years in the event that they are audited.
Sec. 344	Ultra Deep Gas Relief	MMS	No action to date. Rules will allow at least 35 bcf suspension volume for wells at least 20,000 feet total vertical depth.
Sec. 345	Deepwater Royalty Relief	MMS	August lease sale 196 in the Western Gulf of Mexico Sale included deepwater royalty relief terms. MMS has issued a proposed notice for the Central Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf Lease Sale 198 scheduled for Mar. 15, 2006 including the royalty relief terms.
Sec. 347	Oil and Gas Leasing in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska	BLM	No action to date. Regulations required as soon as practicable after enactment regarding changes to renewal procedures for leases and exploration incentives.
Sec. 349	Orphaned, Abandoned, or Idled Wells on Federal Land	BLM, MMS	Pilot program to be developed for new leases on which one or more orphaned wells are located. Secretary authorized to issue regulations as appropriate. This program will entail reimbursement to a lessee for reclamation of orphaned/abandoned wells through a royalty credit against the Federal share of royalties.
Sec. 350	Combined Hydrocarbon Leasing	BLM	BLM published an Interim Final Rule on October 7, 2005 amending 43 C.F.R. Part 3140 to allow for separate oil and gas leases and tar sands leases, and special combined hydrocarbon leases in tar sands areas. <i>See</i> 70 Fed. Reg. 58854, 58874 (Oct. 7, 2005).

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Sec. 352	Oil and Gas Lease Acreage Limitations	BLM	No action to date. Regulation change needed to conform existing requirements to statute. BLM intends to issue direct final rule.
Sec. 353	Gas Hydrates Royalty Relief	MMS	No action to date. Rules will apply to federal leases in OCS and Alaska and suspension volumes up to 30 bcf per lease.
Sec. 354	CO2 Injection and Enhanced Oil Recovery	BLM, MMS	No action to date. Royalty suspension on 5 million barrels of oil equivalent.
Sec. 357	OCS Inventory of all oil and gas resources	MMS	MMS requested public comment on the new 5-year leasing program (2007-2012) and EIS for OCS oil and gas leasing. <i>See</i> 70 Fed. Reg. 49669 (Aug. 24, 2005).
Sec. 362	Timely Action on Leases and Permits; Expeditious Compliance with NEPA, NHPA	USDA, BLM, FWS	No action to date. Proposed regulations to be published for comment detailing specific timeframes for processing lease applications, Resource Management Plans, and related documents. Requires development and implementation of Best Management Practices. No deadline for final rule. Proposed regulations must be published within 180 days of development of Best Management Practices.
Sec. 363	Consultation	BLM, USDA	Interior and USDA are establishing a joint data retrieval system. Interior and USDA shall enter into a MOU to establish administrative procedures and lines of authority that ensure timely processing of oil and gas lease applications.
Sec. 365	Pilot Project to Improve Permit Coordination; Cost Recovery	BLM	On July 19, 2005, BLM proposed increased fees related to oil and gas operations to assist in cost recovery, including additional fees for APDs. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 banned fee recovery related to APDs and geophysical exploration permits. BLM's final rule did not include these fees. <i>See</i> 70 Fed. Reg. 58854, 58855 (Oct. 7, 2005).
Sec. 365	Pilot Project to Improve Permit Coordination; Memorandum of Understanding	DOI, USDA, EPA, USACE	On October 24, 2005, Secretary Norton signed the MOU to expedite the Federal oil and gas permit processing. The Energy Policy Act established the Federal Permit Streamlining Pilot Project in 7 BLM Field Offices to improve the efficiency in processing oil and gas use authorizations and permit coordination. Mineral Leasing Act revenue distribution has been changed for a BLM Permit Processing Improvement Fund which shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation, for FY 2006 through 2015.
Sec. 366	Deadline for Considering APDs	BLM	Proposed rule to be issued in connection with revision of Onshore Order No. 1. On Sept. 13, 2005, BLM issued Instruction Memorandum 2005-235 for Interim Guidance.
Sec. 368	Energy Right of Way Corridors on Federal Lands (pipelines, electricity transmission and distribution facilities on federal Land)	BLM, USDA	On September 28, 2005, the Department of the Interior published a notice of intent to prepare a programmatic EIS for Energy Right of Way Corridors on federal lands. Public comments are due by November 28, 2005. <i>See</i> 70 Fed. Reg. 56647 (Sept. 28, 2005).

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Sec. 369	Oil Shale, Tar Sands, and Other Strategic Unconventional Fuels	BLM	Industry nominated twenty parcels for oil shale research and development on federal lands in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. An interdisciplinary team is considering the nominations and will then make recommendations for awarding leases.
Sec. 371	Reinstatement of Leases for Failure to Pay Rental	BLM	On October 21, 2005, BLM issued Instruction Memorandum 2005-26 which provides guidance on reinstating leases that BLM terminated between September 1, 2001 and June 30, 2004. BLM must receive all petitions to have leases reinstated by December 6, 2005.
Sec. 388	OCS Renewable Energy & Alternative Use	MMS	The EPA of 2005 granted MMS management authority of the OCS Renewable Energy & Alternative Use Program through an amendment to the OCS Lands Act. MMS established the OCS Renewable Energy & Alternative Use website and new regulations implementing the program are due in May 2006.
Sec. 390	NEPA Categorical Exclusions	BLM, USDA	On Sept. 30, 2005, BLM issued Instruction Memorandum 2005-247 which provides guidance on use of NEPA categorical exclusions. The final provision will be included in revised Onshore Order No. 1. BLM may issue another rulemaking to define when the phrase "subject to rebuttable presumption" will apply.
Secs. 1261-1277	Repeal of PUHCA	FERC, DOE	On September 23, 2005, FERC published a proposed rulemaking for rules repealing the Public Utility Holding Company Act. See 70 Fed. Reg. 55805 (Sept. 23, 2005). FERC also proposes to remove 18 C.F.R. Part 365 regarding wholesale generator rules.
Secs. 601-610	Nuclear Power	DOE	Duke Energy and Progress Energy have proposed to construct a new nuclear power plants. The companies have not submitted formal applications.
Sec. 1835	Split-Estate Issues	BLM	No action to date. Secretary will review the current policies and practices with respect to management of Federal subsurface oil and gas development activities and their effects. The Secretary will report to Congress no later than 180 days after enactment.



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