



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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MANUAL TRANSMITTAL SHEET

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Subject H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE  
MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS (PUBLIC)

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1. Explanation of Material Transmitted: Illustration 16, "Standard Terms and Conditions", these requirements apply to all Notices of Intent to conduct geophysical operations utilizing a categorical exclusion for National Environmental Policy Act compliance.

This change is being added to the existing H-3150 Handbook for Onshore Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Surface Management Requirements. Under Insert, please add Illustration 16, "Standard Terms and Conditions".

2. Reports Required: None.
3. Material Superseded: None
4. Filing Instructions: File as directed below, immediately following Manual Illustration 15, "Example of an Inspection Notification Letter".

REMOVE

INSERT

None

All of Illustration 16

(Total: 2 Sheets)

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H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
I. <u>Operator Filing Procedures</u> .....	1
A. Notice of Intent Form.....	1
B. Sundry Notice Process.....	1
C. Prework Conference.....	2
D. Notification.....	3
II. <u>Approval Procedures</u> .....	3
A. Adjudication.....	3
B. Compliance With 5-working-Day Notification Requirement.....	4
C. Review of Existing Information.....	5
D. Environmental Analysis and Documentation.....	6
E. Prework Conference or Field Inspection.....	7
III. <u>Monitoring During Exploration Operations</u> .....	7
A. Compliance Inspections.....	7
B. Coordination.....	8
IV. <u>Operator Procedures for Completion</u> .....	8
V. <u>BLM Procedures for Completion</u> .....	8
A. Administrative Procedures.....	8
B. Review.....	8
C. Compliance Monitoring.....	9
VI. <u>Noncompliance</u> .....	10
A. Documentation.....	10
B. Notification.....	10
C. Coordination.....	10
D. Loaded Shot Holes.....	10
E. Reclamation.....	11
F. Bond Attachment.....	11
G. Inspection Notification.....	11

Glossary of Terms

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Illustrations

1. Notice of Intent to Conduct Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations, Form 3150-4
2. Filing Procedures for Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration on Public Lands
3. Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells, Form 3160-5
4. Terms and Conditions of Notice of Intent to Conduct Geophysical Exploration, Form 3150-4a
5. Model Format for Approval for Use of Earthmoving Equipment
6. Checklist for Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration
7. Listing of ALMRS (Case Recordation) Data Element (DE) 2910 Action Codes Applicable to Geophysical Exploration in the Lower 48 States
8. Receipt of Notice of Intent Letter
9. Cultural Resources Procedures for Geophysical Operations
10. Resources Protection Offsets for Cultural Resource Structures and Other Facilities
11. Compliance Inspection for Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations
12. Request for Status of Operations
13. Notice of Completion of Oil and Gas Exploration Operations, Form 3150-5
14. Example of a Receipt of Notice of Completion Letter
15. Example of an Inspection Notification Letter

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

I Operator Filing Procedures. All oil and gas geophysical exploration operations on surface administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) shall be authorized using the Notice of Intent (NOI) process. In those situations where Federal minerals are underlying private surface and the private surface owner's consent is obtained, the BLM is not to become involved. However, when landowner consent for access to the surface cannot be obtained for geophysical exploration operations on a Federal lease by the lease operator, the geophysical operation is to be authorized using the Sundry Notice process.

Adequate bonding for all operations must be provided by the operator.

A. Notice of Intent Form. The operator shall complete, sign, and file and NOI, Form 3150-4 (Illustration 1). The submittal shall include maps (minimum scale of ½ inch equals 1 mile or 1:100,000) showing the location of the activity and proposed access routes on public lands, if maps are available. Pursuant to this requirement, a memorandum dated April 29, 1975, from the Rocky Mountain Regional Solicitor on Geophysical Exploration Operations states, "...if requiring the operator to file maps giving the location of his exploration line and access routes and requiring prior written approval for other type dirt work and requiring advance written notice of any proposed changes in the operator's exploration plan are necessary for the District Manager's proper supervision of the operator's exploration operations, then you have full authority to require these things of the operator."

Filing procedures are summarized in Illustration 2 and may be provided to operators as a useful guide.

B. Sundry Notice Process. A Federal oil and gas lease allows the lessee/operator to conduct geophysical exploration operations as a part of lease exploration. A lessee may conduct exploration on Federal, private, or State surface in pursuit of Federal oil and gas lease exploration/development. A Sundry Notices and Report on Wells, Form 3160-5 (Illustration 3) is to be submitted, along with the NOI describing the proposed operation. This process is to be required for approval of geophysical exploration operations that occur in conjunction with lease or unit exploration/development. For operations on private surface where access is denied, the mineral lessee/operator must provide the surface owner with copies of the Sundry Notice, NOI, proof of bonding, and notification of their intent to enter onto the lands to conduct lease/unit operations.

The BLM shall not become involved in resolving differences between a private surface owner/lessee and the operator. If the private surface owner/lessee denies access after all negotiations with the operator have failed, the procedures set out in Federal regulations 43 CFR 3814 and as follows apply:

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Where the minerals and the right of access have been reserved by the United States (e.g., Act of July 17, 1914 (43 CFR 3813), the Stockraising Homestead Act of 1916, the Desert Land Act of 1877, as amended (43 CFR 2520), mineral estate reserved under FLPMA, etc.), the lessee or the lessee's designated operator must employ one of the following methods to acquire access to private or State surface:

1. Sundry Notice. When the geophysical exploration operator is the Federal lessee or designated operator of the lessee, it is to file a Sundry Notice (Form 3160-5) with the BLM and provide notification to the surface owner by certified mail that it intends to enter onto the lands and conduct lease operations. The lessee/operator must then submit proof to the BLM authorized officer that the surface owner has been notified. The lessee/operator must also submit proof to the BLM authorized officer that it has a current and adequate bond payable to the United States for use by the surface owner for damages caused during the exploration operations. The authorized officer must give the surface owner 30 days to comment on the proposed action before approving the Sundry Notice.

2. BLM Denied Access. When BLM personnel are denied access to a Federal lease, the authorized officer is to notify the surface owner of the pertinent regulations and document all contacts with the surface owner. If all efforts of negotiation for entry of BLM personnel onto the private surface fail, an order from the District Court is needed. The first step is to advise the appropriate Regional or Field Solicitor of the situation. A certified copy of the original patent for the lands and signed notarized affidavits from each BLM employee who has been refused entry onto the private surface are needed to initiate court action. It may be helpful in prosecuting the BLM case to obtain affidavits from operators who may have also been denied access. The affidavits must explain the reason(s) why entry is needed for each person, the dates and times the surface owner was contacted, the date entry was refused.

3. Lessee Denied Access. When a lessee/operator is denied access, it should follow a similar process as described in I.B.2., above. In the event the lessee/operator must obtain a court order, the lessee/operator will be required to file the same proof for right of entry. It is not the BLM's role to file documents on behalf of the lessee/operator.

C. Pework Conference. The operator shall attend a prework conference or participate in a field inspection unless it is deemed unnecessary by the authorized officer. Written documentation of the waiver shall be provided in the case file. The terms and conditions for geophysical operations, Form 3150-4a (Illustration 4) shall be completed and signed prior to starting exploration operations.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

A model format for approval for use of earthmoving equipment (Illustration 5) shall be used for approval by the authorized officer when such equipment is to be used during geophysical operations. Approval is required prior to the operator commencing dirt work, snow removal, or cutting and removal of vegetation. Offices may adopt their own format, as appropriate.

D. Notification. After the NOI is approved, the operator shall notify the BLM at least 3 days, and no more than 14 days, before entering onto public lands. If weather or environmental conditions have changed, additional protection measures may be necessary.

II. Approval Procedures. A sample checklist for tracking work completed within the office on a filed NOI is provided in Illustration 6. No nationwide format will be developed, but local offices can develop such a checklist as needed.

### A. Adjudication.

1. Date stamp the NOI and all attached material.
2. Assign serial number: Access Automated Land Mineral Record System (ALMRS) Case Recordation and assign serial number.
3. An example of a suggested file folder label format is:
 

3150	ALMRS Serial No. _____
_____ Operator Name	State No. 005-88001 (optional)
4. Confirm State number with appropriate State agency, if applicable.
5. Verify that the type and amount of the bond is appropriate. See Manual Section 3104 and Handbook H-3104-1 - Bonds. In most cases, the geophysical contractor will be the bonded party and, thus, the operator. When an oil company (lessee) is the bonded party, the geophysical contractor must provide a written statement from the lessee describing the contractor as the designated agent and provide proof of notification to the bonding company for this action.

The regulations at 43 CFR Subpart 3154 address bonds for geophysical exploration operations. Bonds for statewide/nationwide exploration operations are handled by the State Office staffs. Bonds for single exploration operations are handled by the District or Resource Area Office staffs.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Holders of individual, statewide, or nationwide lease bonds are allowed to conduct exploration operations on their leaseholds without separate bond coverage. Holders of statewide and nationwide lease bonds wishing to conduct exploration operations on lands they do not have leased either may obtain a rider to their bond to include oil and gas exploration operations, or obtain separate geophysical exploration bond coverage. In either situation, the BLM must ensure that adequate bond coverage exists to address all exploration liabilities. In addition, a lessee must provide written notification of the designated agent to the bonding company, with a copy of the BLM, prior to BLM accepting the bond.

6. Enter information in the Resource Area Oil and Gas Exploration Operations Log. Enter the information into ALMRS Case Recordation in Case Type 315100. The appropriate action codes for data entry are listed in Illustration 7.

B. Compliance With 5-Working-Day Notification Requirement. 43 CFR 3151.1 provides that the NOI must be processed and the terms and conditions attached within 5 working days or the operator must be notified in writing of the reasons for the delay. It is an objective of the BLM that most proposed operations within a resource area be authorized within that timeframe. Delayed operations should be the exception rather than the rule. A prework conference shall be held unless there is a specific need to waive it.

1. All NOI's shall be reviewed promptly upon their receipt to determine if they are complete. If the authorized officer determines an NOI is not complete, the operator shall be notified within 5 working days, by telephone and in writing (certified mail, return receipt requested), of the deficiencies and steps needed to correct them.

2. If there are no deficiencies in the NOI, the operator shall be notified by the authorized officer with 5 working days to schedule a prework conference or field inspection prior to beginning of field operations. When, in unusual circumstances, the prework conference is waived by the authorized officer, a date shall be set to mail the Terms and Conditions (Form 3150-4a) to the operator for signature. Written documentation of the waiver shall be provided in the case file.

3. If the NOI cannot be processed within 5 working days of the filing date, the authorized officer shall specify:

- a. The reason for the delay.
- b. When the processing will be completed.

For instance, the notification may include a discussion of the reasons why the BLM staff is unable to complete the cultural, biological, etc., evaluation within the 5 working days. The notice shall indicate that the operator may request a status report as needed.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

4. An informal telephone call to the operator, accompanied by a telephone confirmation memorandum to the file, may be all that is necessary to correct any deficiencies, schedule prework conference, or document that the NOI cannot be processed within 5 working days. If the operator wants the request in writing, or if the authorized officer requires written documentation from the operator, a letter containing the information described above should be sent. A sample format for a letter that has been used successfully is provided in Illustration 8.

### C. Review of Existing Information.

1. Determine land status including surface ownership, existence of any surface use restrictions by BLM concerning oil and gas leasing, or withdrawals by other Federal agencies. However, be aware of the policies established in BLM Manual 3150. Lands are not automatically closed to geophysical exploration operations when they are closed to leasing or surface occupancy.

2. Identify any potential surface use conflicts between the proposed operation and land use plan restrictions, wildlife habitat areas, range improvements, rights-of-way structures, fire danger, populated areas, hunting seasons, off-road vehicle restrictions, or any other special designations. The potential conflicts between resources values and geophysical operations can usually be reconciled.

See Illustrations 9 and 10 for relevant information. Illustration 10 only considers direct effects to historic properties. Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concerning determinations of effect must consider indirect effects as well. In addition, such consultations should also be used to determine if there are specific historic property types not referred to Illustration 10 that have been identified and require different considerations.

3. Assemble existing environmental information. Note the policies concerning existing information established throughout BLM Manual 3150. One purpose of the environmental review process is to develop mitigation measures or avoidance alternatives rather than to generate additional inventories of Federal lands. A clear understanding of this distinction will affect the nature and extent of data collection activities which may be required.

a. Determine if the proposed geophysical activity is a casual use or is otherwise exempt from the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). If so, documents the finding and issue the NOI.

b. Determine if the proposed geophysical activity is categorically excluded from NEPA. If so, document the finding and issue the NOI.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

c. Review relevant existing EA's and EIS's to determine if the proposed action is already fully covered. If an existing EA or EIS fully covers the proposed action, then a decision on the action may be made without any further NEPA analysis. Document this finding through an Administrative Determination and issue NOI.

4. Notify other agencies as necessary.

5. If special resources have been identified in the area of this survey, environmental reviews should then be initiated. As mentioned previously, a majority of geophysical operations can proceed without an extensive environmental review process, particularly since mitigation measures and avoidance alternatives can often be readily devised.

D. Environmental Analysis and Documentation. The NOI's on public lands under BLM jurisdiction must be reviewed for NEPA compliance. The EA process need not be time-consuming nor complicated. The level of assessment should be commensurate with the anticipated impacts and the degree of public concern. The manager responsible for preparing the EA determines the appropriate format within established standards. The EA's may range from a short (1 or 2 pages) finding of no significant impact (FONSI) Decision Record document characterized by only a few headings to a relatively long (10 to 15 pages) document characterized by several headings and subheadings. Refer to BLM Handbook H-1790-1 - National Environmental Policy Handbook, Chapter IV, for more information on formats. The environmental effects of most geophysical proposal can be adequately addressed by using the short document format.

Each resource specialist should independently evaluate and complete a resource assessment as soon as the NOI is filed. This review should be conducted simultaneously by the various disciplines in order to speed up the review process. Any review methods developed in the resource area in advance of NOI filings is encouraged. Some resources areas have developed an overlay listing appropriate stipulations that pertain to potential geophysical operations.

In addition, all resource evaluations, including informal and formal consultations with outside parties (e.g., SHPO, FWS) shall begin as soon as the NOI is filed.

Follow the steps below in performing the analysis and documentation:

1. Preparation of environmental assessment.

a. Review existing information to determine if:

(1) there are resource conflicts present along the proposed survey line. Note the specific policies established in BLM Manual 3150.21D and 3150.32c.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

(2) the information demonstrates that the resources present along the proposed survey line are likely to be adversely affected by the type of survey planned.

b. If a review of the existing information by BLM, including information consultations with outside agencies, does not demonstrate the presence of a resource conflict and likely adverse effects, document the information reviewed and complete the processing of the EA and NOI.

c. If a review of the existing of the existing information by BLM does demonstrate the presence of a resource conflict and likely adverse effects, document the information.

d. Immediately inform the operator of the nature and known extent of the potential impact, and where possible suggest avoidance procedures that would mitigate potential resource impacts.

e. Obtain input from other surface management agencies when BLM is processing a NOI for them.

f. Prepare the EA and appropriate documentation.

2. Evaluate the standard terms and conditions on Form 3150-4a (Illustration 4) to determine if they adequately mitigate potential resources impacts identified in the EA.

3. Establish special conditions which may be needed or recommended as a result of the environmental analysis or land use plan.

4. Prepare the FONSI and Decision Record for the authorized officer's signature.

### E. Pework Conference or Field Inspection.

1. Schedule and conduct a prework conference and/or field inspection. The terms and conditions must be signed by the party chief/manager. The person who submits the NOI may not be available when the crew begins work. It is imperative that the party chief/manager understand how and where terms and conditions apply.

2. If, in unusual circumstance, the prework conference is waived, mail a copy of the terms and conditions to the operator for signature.

3. Contact affected agencies and land users regarding any modifications, as appropriate.

4. Document all coordination activities and provide copies to interested parties.

5. Obtain approval of BLM authorized officer.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

### III. Monitoring During Exploration Operations.

#### A. Compliance Inspections.

1. Make periodic field inspections during the operation to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions (e.g., material storage, distance from water wells, proper hole plugging, reclamation, clean-up, etc.).

2. When noncompliance items are discovered, notify the operator verbally and then follow up with written notification by certified mail, return receipt requested. For a complete breakdown of noncompliance procedures, see VI. of this Handbook.

3. Document compliance inspections with photos and written reports. An example is provided with Illustration 11. No nationwide form will be developed, but a copy of a form used successfully in some other States is provided for information purposed. Offices may adopt their own format, as appropriate.

4. If the operation appears to be completed and a Notice of Completion (NOC) has not been received, ask the operator for the status. A sample format for a letter that has been used successfully is provided in Illustration 12. It is a Request for Status of Operations Letter, mailed certified to the operator, stating that the NOC must be sent within 30 days.

#### B. Coordination.

1. Contact the State, other affected agencies, and land users, as appropriate, regarding any modification and/or noncompliance encountered during geophysical activity.

2. Document all coordination activities and provide copies to interested parties with a letter to the file.

IV. Operator Procedures for Completion. Within 30 days after completion of operations, including appropriate reclamation activities, the operator shall submit a Notice of Completion of Oil and Gas Exploration Operations (NOC), Form 3150-5 (Illustration 13) to the appropriate BLM office. A source point or field map (minimum scale of 1:24,000) showing source points, surveyed line locations, and any access routes on public lands shall be attached to the NOC.

### V. BLM Procedures for Completion.

A. Administrative Procedures. Upon receipt of an NOC, the BLM will:

1. Date Stamp. Date stamp NOC, maps, and any other attachments.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

2. Log. Log in Resource Area Oil and Gas Exploration Operations Log Control Register. Enter the information into ALMRS Case Recordation in accordance with State and Bureauwide guidance. The appropriate action codes for data entry are listed in Illustration 7.

### B. Review.

1. Completeness. Check the NOC for completeness and adequacy of maps and information.

2. File. Attach the NOC to the case file

3. Review. Determine if project has been inspected and released by the State or other agencies as appropriate.

### C. Compliance Monitoring.

1. Response. Send the operator a Receipt of NOC Letter with a copy to the State or other agencies as appropriate. No nationwide form will be developed, but an example of a form letter successfully used by several offices is provided (Illustration 14) for information purposes. Offices may adopt their own format, as appropriate. If necessary schedule a final compliance inspection.

2. Inspection. Conduct a final inspection for compliance with the terms and conditions. Document the inspection by completing Compliance Inspection for Oil and Gas Exploration Operations (Illustration 11), and attach any necessary photographs.

Note: Final inspection must be completed within 30 days of receipt of the NOC unless weather conditions are such that an adequate inspection cannot be conducted within that timeframe (see 43 CFR 3151.2).

The Rock Mountain Regional Solicitor's memorandum dated April 29, 1975, states".....that an extension of the 90-day period is only permissible if weather conditions make it actually or practically impossible to carry out the required inspection within this time limit. The mandated time limit cannot be extended simply because BLM has a personnel shortage (sic) which makes meeting the deadline difficult. If the opposite were true, the operator would have no way of knowing when he could expect the release of his bond."

If weather conditions delay completion of the final inspection beyond the 30-day time limit, the operator shall be notified when the inspection is rescheduled for completion.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Should the authorized officer fail to notify the operator of additional requirements within 90 days of the filing of the NOC, liability for that particular exploration operation shall automatically terminate. See 43 CFR 2154.3. A 75-day rotation call-up system shall be established in each office for NOC's so the 90-day notification requirement mentioned above will not be overlooked. If BLM is unable to conduct a final field inspection of the survey lines because of adverse weather or other unforeseeable situations, the geophysical operator will be notified in writing every 75 days by certified mail, return receipt requested. BLM will explain why the inspection was not conducted, give an anticipated date for completion, and a statement that bond liability is not released.

3. Compliance. If the operation is found to be in compliance with the terms and conditions during the compliance inspection, notify the operator. An example of an Inspection Notification Letter (Illustration 15) is provided. Send a copy to the State government if necessary. Enter the information into ALMRS Case Recordation in accordance with State and Bureauwide guidance. The appropriate action codes for data entry are listed in Illustration 7.

When noncompliance items are discovered, notify the operator verbally and then follow up with written notification by certified mail, return receipt requested. For a complete breakdown of noncompliance procedures, see Chapter VI of this Handbook.

VI. Noncompliance. Noncompliance includes trespass, violations of the terms and conditions failure to meet reclamation or drill hole plugging standards, causing unnecessary degradation, and breaking Federal, State, or local laws. Upon discovery of noncompliance, the following procedures shall be followed.

A. Documentation. If the operation is found not to be in compliance during the compliance inspection, ensure that complete documentation, including photographs and necessary mitigation measures, is included in the case file.

B. Notification. Notify the operator by telephone within days and follow up with a letter. The letter must specify the exact work that is required, timeframes to commence and complete the work, and that failure to perform the required work may result in attachment of the bond. This letter shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested.

If the operator does not respond within the timeframes given in the notification, a copy of this letter shall be sent to the bonding company and client company, as applicable, by certified mail. A copy shall also be sent to the appropriate State agency.

C. Coordination. Notify appropriate agencies and land users of the noncompliance.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

D. Loaded Shot Holes. When unsecured loaded shot holes, not in conformance with State or ATF standards, are encountered by a BLM employee or identified and reported to a BLM employee, the following procedures shall be followed, as appropriate, within 24 hours following the incident report:

1. File Search. Conduct a file search to identify the geophysical operator and probably date of the geophysical activity.
2. Location. Confirm the exact location, operator, and whether the noncompliance actually exists. Document with photographs and a narrative description of the site and the kind of activity.
3. Contact. Contact the operator by telephone. Provide a complete description of the incident and location of the explosives. Notify them of the need to deactivate the site.
4. Notification. Contact the Special Agent-in-charge, State BLM office by telephone or radio. Provide a complete description of the incident and location of the explosives.
5. Deactivation. A BLM employee should be present at the deactivation activities.
6. Compensation. Monetary compensation shall be provided for explosive deactivation by the responsible geophysical operator or, if necessary, the operator's bond may be attached unless the operator performs the deactivation.

E. Reclamation. the terms and conditions of the approved NOI are considered met if there is evidence that the disturbed area is stable and that vegetation is or will become established to the same degree as the immediately adjacent area. Vegetation establishment normally takes two years or longer following reseeded. When BLM is waiting for vegetation to become established, bond liability is not released. A letter to the operator explaining the reason for the delay in bond release will be sent. If reclamation is inadequate the operator's bond should not be attached until all attempts to notify them of the need to correct a deficiency is exhausted.

F. Bond Attachment. If the operator fails to respond or fails to perform the required work within the specified timeframe, notify the District and/or the State Office staffs that work with bond attachment as outlined in BLM Oil and Gas Manual Handbook 3104-1, Section X.

G. Inspection Notification. When the operation is found to be in compliance with the terms and conditions, notify the operator, and send a copy to the State, where appropriate.

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Glossary of Terms

-A-

authorized officer: any employee of the Bureau of Land Management authorized through delegations of authority to perform the duties described in this Handbook. Usually, the Area Manager is the authorized officer.

-C-

casual use: activities that involve practices which do not ordinarily lead to any appreciable disturbance or damage to lands, resources, and improvements. For example, activities that do not involve use of heavy equipment or explosives and that do not involve vehicular movement except over established roads and trails are casual use. For the purpose of illustration in this Handbook, gravity or magnetic surveys, the placement of recording equipment devices, and activities that do not involve vehicle operations that would cause significant compaction or rutting are generally considered as casual use.

consultation: a process that involves informal discussions between BLM and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) regarding the impact of an action on proposed species or proposed Critical Habitat and recommendations to minimize or avoid the adverse effects.

critical habitation: specific areas, designated by the Secretary of the Interior as part of the listing process concerning Threatened and Endangered species. Such areas are essential to the conservation of the species and may require special management considerations or protection. It also includes areas not occupied by the Threatened and Endangered species at the time of listing but which the Secretary has determined are essential to the conservation of the species. See 50 CFR Part 17 and 226.

-D-

deep holes: deep holes are defined, for the purpose of this document, as any hole that exceeds the conventional hole depths for geophysical shot hole acquisition. For most areas conventional depths are less than 500 feet, but in some areas (e.g., portions of California and the overthrust belt of Wyoming conventional shot-hole depths may be as much as 700 feet. Geophysical data collection may also occur in deeper holes for the purposes of velocity surveys or vertical seismic profiles.

-F-

Federal minerals: any lands where the minerals are owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management.

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

formal consultation: a component of the Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation process that commences with the BLM's written request for consultation after it has been determined that its action may affect listed species or Critical Habitats.

-G-

geophone (seismometer, jug): an instrument used to transform seismic energy into an electrical impulse. A "listening" device for seismic energy.

gravity method: a prospecting method that detects micro-variations in gravitational attraction caused by the differences in the density of various types of rock. The instrument used for gravity surveys is a small portable device called a gravimeter.

-H-

historic property: any prehistoric or historic district, site, building structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places under 36 CFR 60.4 or Section 101 (s)(6) of the 1992 amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act.

-I-

informal consultation: a component of the Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation process that includes all discussions, correspondence, etc., between the FWS and the BLM agency or the designated non-Federal representative prior to initiation of formal consultation.

-M-

magnetic method: a geophysical procedure that utilizes a magnetometer to measure variations in the earth's magnetic field caused by changes in magnetic properties of subsurface rocks.

-N-

Notice of Completion (NOC): the form or process by which a geophysical operator notifies the BLM that geophysical exploration operations, as approved under an application, have been completed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the approved application.

Notice of Intent (NOI): the form or process by which a geophysical operator requests authorization to conduct geophysical exploration on Federal lands.

## H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

-O-

oil and gas geophysical exploration: activity on the Federal lands relating to the search for evidence of oil and gas. It requires a physical presence upon the land and may result in disturbance to the land or other resources. It includes, but is not limited to, geophysical operations, and cross country transit of vehicles over such lands. It does not include core drilling for subsurface geologic information or drilling for oil and gas.

-P-

peak particle velocity: the maximum ground displacement measured at a specified distance from an energy source.

poulter method: this is a method that is similar to the drill or shot-hole method, except the charges are placed above the ground, to generate seismic waves that are recorded by a seismograph.

-R-

receiver: See geophone.

recording truck (doghouse): a vehicle containing the seismograph equipment for recording a geophysical survey in the field.

-S-

seismic reflection method: use of an energy source, usually either an explosive charge or vibroseis, to send acoustic energy into the earth. The energy is reflected from subsurface layers and recorded at the surface with geophones. The data collected are then processed by computer to create an image of the subsurface geology.

seismic survey, 2D: a seismic program carried out with shots (energy sources) and receivers (listening devices) arranged along the same line.

seismic survey, 3D: a seismic program with shots and receivers arranged in an areal pattern on the surface. Can vary considerable in dimension and distances between shots and receivers.

shot-hole method (via truck or helicopter): utilizes holes drilled in a variable spacing pattern by a truck mounted drill rig. The holes are usually less than 250 feet deep, with a diameter of 3.5 to 8 inches. An explosive charge is placed in the holes and detonated to generate seismic waves that are recorded by a seismograph. The helicopter portable drill rig method uses the same procedures as the truck mounted method, except the drill rig breaks down into components and is transported via helicopter. The maximum diameter of heliportable drill holes is 4 inches.

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

source point interval: the distance between adjacent locations where seismic energy is introduced into the earth. Usually try to keep constant along a seismic line.

surface disturbance: any physical disturbances that directly or indirectly impacts biological and physical surface resources values.

surface shots: See poulter method.

-T-

trespass: a trespass occurs when a geophysical operator conducts operations on public lands, other than casual use, without filing an NOI or having other legal authorization from the Bureau of Land Management.

-U\_

undertaking: a project activity or program funded in whole or part, under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency, including:

1. Those carried out by or on behalf of the agency.
2. Those carried out with Federal financial assistance.
3. Those requiring a Federal permit, license, or approval.
4. Those subject to State or local regulations administered pursuant to a delegation or approval by a Federal agency.

-V-

velocity survey: geophysical information collected for the purpose of obtaining velocity information. Usually involves drilling a borehole 500 feet to 1000 feet in depth, placing geophones in the hole, and discharging an energy source adjacent to the hole. Alternatively, the energy source can be placed in the hole, with the resultant seismic signal recorded by geophones placed on the surface. Velocity surveys are often conducted concurrently with or along planned, existing, or part seismic lines.

vertical seismic profile (VSP): a geophysical survey collected in a borehole using a receiver located in the hole and an energy source adjacent to the hold.

vibroiseis method: one to six trucks or buggies usually work close together in a line with this method. The trucks are equipped with metal pads that vibrate the ground to produce acoustic waves. The reflected acoustic waves are recorded by a seismograph.

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

BLM Form 3150-4 FS Form 2800-16 (September 2013)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE

FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 1004-0162 Expires: July 31, 2015

NOI Case File No.

Project Name

NOTICE OF INTENT AND AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION OPERATIONS

Form section for Lessee or Operator and Lessee or Operator Representative, including fields for Address, City, State, Zip Code, Phone No., Bond No., and Bond Amount.

Form section for Geophysical Co. and Geophysical Co. Representative, including fields for Address, City, State, Zip Code, and Phone No.

Form section for Party Chief/Project Point of Contact (POC) and POC Contact Information.

A separate Plan of Operations is attached addressing the items below [ ] Yes [ ] No.

1. Location Description and Maps: Give the general land description of the lands involved, limited to Meridian, Township, Range, and Section(s) or metes and bounds as appropriate. You must also submit an electronic map (in PDF) with a minimum scale of one-half inch per mile showing the general area and project location.

2. Do you hold any Federal leases within the project area? [ ] Yes [ ] No (If yes, indicate location and lease numbers on an attached map.) There is no fee for operations conducted on your Federal lease (outside of Alaska).

3. If you are proposing seismic exploration, how many miles of source line (2-D), or acres (3-D) (to the nearest 10 acres) of survey are on:

a. Your Federal Lease \_\_\_\_\_ b. Other Federal lands \_\_\_\_\_

4. When do you expect to start exploration? \_\_\_\_\_ How long will the project last? \_\_\_\_\_ days.

Describe any of your critical timeframes associated with the proposed project, such as equipment or contractor availability.

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 and Title 43 U.S.C. Section 1212 make it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any Department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

(Continued on page 2)

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

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Description and Type of Operations *(check all that apply)*;

a. Survey Type:  2-D  3-D  Gravity/Magnetic  Other (explain):

Describe the survey type:

b. Survey Method:  Shot hole  Vibroseis  Other (explain):

For shot holes:

What type and amount of explosives per source will you use?

What shot point pattern and spacing will you use?

What will be the shot hole depth?

What type of receivers (wired/wireless) will you use and how will they be transported and placed?

What will be the receiver and source spacing (in feet) and spacing between the source and receiver (in feet)?

Describe the survey method:

c. Seismic Source and Transport Methods:  Vibroseis Trucks  Pick-up Truck  Drill Buggy  ATV  Helicopter  Backpack

Describe your seismic source and transportation plans, including types of vehicles, numbers of vehicles for each aspect of the project, routes, and methods you will use to access the project area:

d. Operating Procedures: Describe your operating procedures, including how you will minimize surface impacts and ensure compliance with the Terms and Conditions of this NOI. Describe staging areas and support facilities you need, such as helispots, temporary camps, equipment storage; fuel storage; powder magazines; construction of roads or trails; proposed plugging procedures for shot holes; waste management and spill prevention; reclamation; and general clean-up procedures.

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

**Terms and Conditions**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or Forest Service (FS) (Agency) must approve any Surface disturbing activities in addition to those approved in the NOI, such as route changes, placement of magazines, towing with a tractor, blading, dozing, snow removal, and vegetation removal. I must notify the Agency in writing of any changes in the original proposal and have Agency approval in writing for the changes before proceeding with them. Stacking sourcepoints to avoid sensitive resources or areas does not require prior Agency approval.</li> <li>2. This NOI expires on _____, unless the Agency extends it in writing before that date.</li> <li>3. I understand that this NOI does not grant any exclusive right to the described lands for geophysical exploration, or other purposes. The land area described above is at all times subject to any other lawful uses by the United States, its lessees, permittees, licensees, and assigns.</li> <li>4. I must notify the Agency at least _____ days, but no more than _____ days, prior to initiating the project and entering upon the public lands.</li> <li>5. In the field, each seismic crew must have with it a copy of the approved NOI and its terms and conditions.</li> <li>6. The Agency may suspend or terminate this NOI if there is a violation of any of its conditions.</li> <li>7. I must suspend operations when the operations may unnecessarily damage the surface, such as when rutting would occur due to wet soil conditions.</li> <li>8. I must indemnify the United States for any liability for damage to life or property resulting from the occupancy or use of public lands under the NOI.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. I must take all reasonable precautions to prevent and must suppress fires. The Agency may specify in writing the fire prevention and firefighting equipment I need. At my expense, I must extinguish all fires set or caused as a result of operations under this NOI and must report all fires to the Agency.</li> <li>10. I must diligently protect from unnecessary damage United States land and property covered by this NOI. I must pay the United States for any damage resulting from my or my agents' or employees' violation of the terms of this NOI or any law or regulation applicable to the lands involved.</li> <li>11. I must store and handle powder magazines and explosives according to the U. S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms standards (see 27 CFR Part 55). I must properly secure loaded shot holes.</li> <li>12. I must complete shot hole plugging under Agency guidelines and the guidelines of any other local, Federal or State regulatory authority.</li> <li>13. I must remove all materials and equipment I placed on the premises and restore the site to the Agency's satisfaction immediately after I complete the project unless the Agency approves other arrangements.</li> <li>14. I must file a Notice of Completion (NOC) Form 3150-5/2800-16a within 30 days after completing operations and reclamation. If the location of the project is different from that in the approved NOI, I must submit a revised map with the NOC (1:24,000 scale, where available), including source points.</li> <li>15. I must pay to the United States \$ _____ per _____ according to the regulations.</li> <li>16. This geophysical exploration project is subject to the attached Conditions of Approval _____ through _____ and Exhibits _____.</li> </ol> |
|--|--|

WARNING: If you purposely give false or misleading information, you may be fined \$10,000, sent to prison, or both (see Title 18 U.S.C. 10001 statement on page 1).

I agree that I and my agents must conduct the geophysical exploration under all Federal, State and local laws, and applicable regulations and must comply with this NOI and any attached terms and conditions.

Printed Name of Authorized Company Representative	Signature of Authorized Company Representative	Date
Printed Name of Agency Signing Officer	Signature of Agency Signing Officer	Title of Agency Signing Officer
		Date

**NOTICES**

The Privacy Act and 43 CFR 2.48(d) require that you be furnished the following information in connection with information request by this form.

**AUTHORITY:** The Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 – 287), Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 341 – 359), Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 – 1782), and National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 – 4347) permit collection of the information requested by this form. The BLM collects this information in accordance with 43 CFR parts 3150 and 3160. The FS collects this information in accordance with 36 CFR part 228.

**PRINCIPAL PURPOSE:** The BLM or the FS will use the information to process your notice and inform you of the terms and conditions under which geophysical exploration operations may be conducted.

**ROUTINE USES:** The BLM will only disclose the information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, and the provisions at 43 CFR 2.56(b) and (c). The FS will only disclose the information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, and the provisions at 36 CFR 200.7 and 7 CFR 1.1.

**EFFECT OF NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION:** Submission of the requested information is necessary to obtain or retain a benefit. Failure to submit all of the requested information or to complete this form may result in delay or result in revocation of your right to conduct geophysical exploration operations.

The Paperwork Reduction Act requires us to inform you that:  
The BLM/FS collects this information in accordance with the statutes and regulations listed above, and for the purposes listed above.  
Submission of the requested information is necessary to obtain or retain a benefit.  
You do not have to respond to this or any other Federal agency-sponsored information collection unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**BURDEN HOURS STATEMENT:** The public reporting burden for this form is 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. You may submit comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (1004-0162), 1849 C Street, NW, Room 2134LM, Attention: Information Collection Clearance Officer, Washington, D. C. 20240.

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Filing Procedures for Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration on Public Lands

BLM Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

State No. \_\_\_\_\_

1. Provide a Notice of Intent to Conduct Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations (Form 3150-4) containing the following information:
  - a. The permit number issued by the State to conduct seismic operations if available.
  - b. Company name and permanent mailing address.
  - c. Name and telephone number of local representative
  - d. Crew/party number.
  - e. e. Line numbers/project name.
  - f. Type of exploration (please be specific): shot hole, vibroseis, surface shot, etc. If shot hole, include hole size, depth, charge shots per mile, and State-required marks to be used on nonmetallic plugs.
  - g. Estimated date work will start.
  - h. A map showing the intended route of the seismic line(s). The map minimum scale 1:100,000) must indicate public lands crossed.
  - i. Written approval must be obtained for use of a bulldozer, earthmoving equipment or vegetation removal. If such work is intended, submit two copies of an approval of an approval for use of earthmoving equipment.
2. Prior to starting exploration operations on public lands, the party chief/manager will attend a prework conference and sign the terms and conditions for the exploration project unless this requirement is waived by the authorized officer.
3. Notify the BLM at least 3 days, and no more than 14 days, before entering onto public lands. If weather or environmental conditions have changed, additional protection measures may be necessary.
4. Following completion of operations, reclamation, and compliance with the Terms and Conditions, promptly submit to the BLM:
  - a. A Notice of Completion of Oil and Gas Exploration Operations (Form 3150-5).

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

- b. A topographic map (minimum scale 1:24,000) showing the actual route of the seismic line(s) and indicating public lands crossed.
5. If no actual operations were conducted, notification by letter to the authorized officer is needed.

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells

Form 3160-5 (June 1990)	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT	FORM APPROVED Budget Bureau No. 1004-0135 Expires: March 31, 1993
<b>SUNDRY NOTICES AND REPORTS ON WELLS</b> Do not use this form for proposals to drill or to deepen or reentry to a different reservoir. Use "APPLICATION FOR PERMIT—" for such proposals		5. Lease Designation and Serial No.
<b>SUBMIT IN TRIPLICATE</b>		6. If Indian, Allottee or Tribe Name
1. Type of Well <input type="checkbox"/> Oil Well <input type="checkbox"/> Gas Well <input type="checkbox"/> Other		7. If Unit or CA, Agreement Designation
2. Name of Operator		8. Well Name and No.
3. Address and Telephone No.		9. API Well No.
4. Location of Well (Footage, Sec., T., R., M., or Survey Description)		10. Field and Pool, or Exploratory Area
		11. County or Parish, State
<b>12. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(S) TO INDICATE NATURE OF NOTICE, REPORT, OR OTHER DATA</b>		
<b>TYPE OF SUBMISSION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Intent <input type="checkbox"/> Subsequent Report <input type="checkbox"/> Final Abandonment Notice	<b>TYPE OF ACTION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Abandonment <input type="checkbox"/> Re-completion <input type="checkbox"/> Plugging Back <input type="checkbox"/> Casing Repair <input type="checkbox"/> Altering Casing <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Plan <input type="checkbox"/> New Construction <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Routine Fracturing <input type="checkbox"/> Water Shut-Off <input type="checkbox"/> Conversion to Injection <input type="checkbox"/> Draining Water <small>(Note: Report results of multiple completion or well completion, Re-completion Report and Log form.)</small>
13. Describe Proposed or Completed Operations (Clearly state all pertinent details and give pertinent dates, including estimated date of starting any proposed work. If well is directionally drilled, give subsurface location and measured and true vertical depths for all markers, and other pertinent to this work.)		
14. I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct.		
Signed _____ Title _____ Date _____ (This space for Federal or State office use)		
Approved by _____ Title _____ Date _____ Conditions of approval, if any:		
<small>Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations in any matter within its jurisdiction.</small>		
*See instruction on Reverse Side		

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

This form is designed for submitting proposals to perform certain well operations, and reports of such operations when completed, as indicated, on Federal and Indian lands pursuant to applicable Federal law and regulations, and, if approved or accepted by any State, on all lands in such State, pursuant to applicable State law and regulations. Any necessary special in-

structions concerning the use of this form and the number of copies to be submitted, particularly with regard to local area, or regional procedures and practices, either are shown below or will be issued by, or may be obtained from, the local Federal and/or State office.

**SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS**

*Item 4*—If there are no applicable State requirements, locations on Federal or Indian land should be described in accordance with Federal requirements. Consult local State or Federal office for specific instructions.

*Item 13*—Proposals to abandon a well and subsequent reports of abandonment should include such special information as is required by local Federal and/or State offices. In addition, such proposals and reports should include reasons for the abandonment; data on any former or present productive

zones, or other zones with present significant fluid contents not sealed off by cement or otherwise; depths (top and bottom) and method of placement of cement plugs, mud or other material placed below, between and above plugs; amount, size, method of parting of any casing, liner or tubing pulled and the depth to top of any left in the hole; method of closing top of well, and date well site conditioned for final inspection looking to approval of the abandonment.

**NOTICE**

The Privacy Act of 1974 and the regulation in 43 CFR 2.48(d) provide that you be furnished the following information in connection with information required by this application.

**AUTHORITY:** 30 U.S.C. 181 et. seq., 351 et. seq., 25 U.S.C. et. seq.; 43 CFR 3160.

**PRINCIPAL PURPOSE** — The information is to be used to evaluate, when appropriate, approve applications, and report completion of secondary well operations, on a Federal or Indian lease.

**ROUTINE USES:**

- (1) Evaluate the equipment and procedures used during the proposed or completed subsequent well operations.
- (2) Request and grant approval to perform those actions covered by 43 CFR 3162.3-2(2).
- (3) Analyze future applications to drill or modify operations in light of data obtained and methods used.
- (4)(5) Information from the record and/or the record will be transferred to appropriate Federal, State, local or foreign agencies, when relevant to civil, criminal or regulatory investigations or prosecutions.

**EFFECT OF NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION** — Filing of this notice and report and disclosure of the information is mandatory once an oil or gas well is drilled.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501, et. seq.) requires us to inform you that: This information is being collected in order to evaluate proposed and/or completed subsequent well operations on Federal or Indian oil and gas leases.

This information will be used to report subsequent operations once work is completed and when requested, to obtain approval for subsequent operations not previously authorized.

Response to this request is mandatory for the specific types of activities specified in 43 CFR Part 3160.

**BURDEN HOURS STATEMENT**

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 25 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, (Alternate) Bureau Clearance Officer, (WO-771), 18 and C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1004-0135), Washington, D.C. 20503.

U.S. GPO: 1980-773-018/0008

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
 SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Terms and Conditions for Notice of Intent  
 To Conduct Geophysical Exploration

Form 3150-4a (July 1993)	<b>UNITED STATES          DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR          BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT</b>  <b>TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR NOTICE OF INTENT          TO CONDUCT GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION</b>	FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 1004-0162 Expires: April 30, 1996 <hr/> BLM Case No. _____ <hr/> State Case No. _____												
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Company Name</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Date NOI Filed</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Address</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Company Project Name</td> </tr> <tr> <td>City</td> <td>State</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zip Code</td> <td>Phone No. (Include area code)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Crew Number</td> </tr> </table>		Company Name	Date NOI Filed	Address		Company Project Name		City	State	Zip Code	Phone No. (Include area code)		Crew Number	
Company Name	Date NOI Filed													
Address														
Company Project Name														
City	State													
Zip Code	Phone No. (Include area code)													
	Crew Number													
<b>GENERAL</b>														
<p>1. A copy of the approved Notice of Intent to Conduct Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations and Terms and Conditions shall be kept in the field with each seismic crew.</p> <p>2. The BLM shall be notified at least 3 days and no more than 14 days before entering onto public lands. If conditions have changed, additional terms and conditions may be necessary.</p> <p>3. The operator is responsible for informing all persons in the area who are associated with this project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are discovered, the operator is to immediately stop work that might further disturb such materials, and contact the Authorized Officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places;</li> <li>• The mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary); and,</li> <li>• A timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800.11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.</li> </ul> <p>If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation costs. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume operations.</p> <p>4. Due care must be taken to safeguard all livestock, wildlife, and wild horses in the vicinity of the exploration operations. Measures to mitigate adverse effects on protected or threatened/endangered species will be determined by the AO after consultation with the operator.</p> <p>5. Operations shall be suspended when in the judgment of the Authorized Officer they have the possibility of unduly harming the surface during periods of wet weather.</p> <p>6. Range improvements (fences, reservoirs, etc.) or land treatment projects (contour furrowing, seeding, or range monitoring sites) shall not be disturbed or altered without prior written approval of the Authorized Officer.</p> <p>7. Federally owned or controlled water shall not be used without written permission of the Authorized Officer.</p> <p>8. All fires set or caused as a result of these exploration operations shall be extinguished without expense to the government. All fires shall be reported to the BLM as soon as possible.</p> <p>9. The operator shall notify the Authorized Officer in writing of any changes in the original application and secure written approval for the changes before proceeding.</p> <p>10. When it is determined that activities will come closer than one quarter (1/4) mile of developed recreation sites, historic trails, springs or flowing water wells the Authorized Officer will be consulted to determine if the action is permissible.</p> <p>11. Advanced written permission shall be obtained before conducting surface disturbing activities. This includes, but is not limited to: towing with a tractor, blading, dozing, snow removal, and vegetation removal.</p> <p>12. Powder magazines and explosives shall be stored and handled according to U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) standards. As required by ATF, loaded shotholes shall not be left unsecured.</p>														
<p><i>(Continued on reverse)</i></p>														

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Terms and Conditions for Notice of Intent  
To Conduct Geophysical Exploration

**RECLAMATION/CLEANUP**

1. Reclamation of disturbed areas shall be done concurrently with the geophysical operation, in-so-far as possible.
2. Shallow hole plugging shall be completed using the guidelines developed by the appropriate State/local regulatory agency or agencies and the Bureau of Land Management State Office. The requirements vary from State to State; therefore, those specific to the State the project is being conducted in will be followed.
3. Where appropriate, disturbed areas shall be reseeded, as directed by the Authorized Officer, until vegetative cover is established that is commensurate with pre-survey conditions. In areas where reseeding is not appropriate, the authorized officer shall determine what steps should be taken.
4. All trash, flagging, lath, etc. shall be removed and hauled to an authorized disposal site.
5. No oil or lubricants shall be drained onto the ground surface.
6. The operator shall notify the Authorized Officer of the date operations are completed.

**COMPLETION OF PROCEDURES**

1. A Notice of Completion (NOC) (Form 3150-5) shall be filed within 30 days of completion of operations including reclamation. A map (minimum scale of 1:24,000) must be attached to the NOC showing public lands crossed and the final location of source points.

I understand and agree to comply with these terms and conditions and any attached special conditions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Appropriate Representative)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Special Conditions Attached



H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Checklist for Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration

BLM Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

State No. \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Party Chief \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Bond Number \_\_\_\_\_ Company Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Date NOI Received and Stamped  
5-Day Call-up date assigned
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Date operator notified of receipt of NOI  
(Form 3150-4). Any additional information needed
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Date environmental resource reviews requested.

Received

- a. Cultural \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Range \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Wildlife, T&E Species \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Wilderness/WSA \_\_\_\_\_
- e. Other \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Date environmental document completed.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Terms and conditions completed and ready for  
party chief signature.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Date prework conference held or Terms and  
conditions mailed to operator for signature.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ 15-day call-up date established following the  
scheduled starting date.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Date exploration operations started.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of inspection
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Date NOC received
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of inspection
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Date bond liability released.

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Listing of ALMRS (Case Recordation) Data Element (DE) 2910 Action Codes

Listing of ALMRS (Case Recordation) Data Element (DE) 2910 Action Codes  
Applicable to Geophysical Exploration in the Lower 48 States

CASE TYPE 315100 - O&G GEOPHYSICAL EXPL-EXCP AK

<u>DE 2910</u>		<u>DE 2910</u>	
040	COMPL EXAM/RPT RQST/INIT	378	BOND PERIOD TERMINATED
041	COMPL EXAM/RPT COMPLETED	383	BOND RETURNED
042	CASE SENT TO	387	CASE ESTABLISHED #
103	ADDTL INFO RECEIVED	393	DEC ISSUED
104	ADDTL INFO RQSTD	399	BOND NO LONGER REQUIRED
114	AMEND/CORR APLN RECD	421	PLAN OPER/EXPL/DEV FILED
115	AMEND/CORR APLN RQSTD	422	PLAN OPER/EXPL/DEV APPV
116	AMENDMENT APPV	423	PLAN OPER/EXPL/DEV REJ
119	APPEAL DISMISSED	424	PLAN OPER/EXPL/DEV WDN
120	APPEAL FILED	441	RECONSIDERATION RQSTD
122	EXT OF TIME RQSTD	451	DEFAULT DETERMINED
125	APLN REJ/DENIED	452	DEFAULT CORRECTION REQD
126	APLN REJ/DEN IN PART	453	DEFAULT CORRECTED
127	ACTION SUSPENDED	463	BOND TERMINATION DENIED
130	APLN WITHDRAWN	474	NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE
131	APLN WITHDRAWN IN PART	477	BOND ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED
134	APPROVAL GIVEN #	486	PMT BY SURETY/PRINCIPAL
136	STAY REQUESTED	487	REMAND REQUESTED
137	STAY GRANTED	678	SUSP LIFTED
138	STAY DENIED	748	PROTEST WITHDRAWN
149	CASE RECEIVED FROM	885	CASE DESTROYED
163	CASE SENT TO NARA	909	BOND ACCEPTED
186	DEBT DCLRD UNCOLLECTIBLE	910	REPORT REQUESTED
188	DEC VACATED/RESCINDED	911	REPORT RECEIVED
199	CANCELED	930	APPEAL WITHDRAWN
200	CANCELED IN PART	949	PROTEST UPHELD
203	EXT OF TIME GRANTED	951	EXT OF TIME TERMINATED
228	EXT OF TIME DENIED	967	CLOSED WITHOUT ACTION
247	FUTURE ACTION SUSPENSE	970	CASE CLOSED #
298	PROTEST DISMISSED	974	AUTOMATED RECORD VERIF
299	PROTEST FILED	992	RIDER FILED
349	CASE RECALLED	993	RIDER ACCEPTED
361	DEC AFFIRMED	994	RIDER UNACCEPTABLE
365	DEC REMANDED	995	RIDER RETURNED
366	DEC REVRSD & REMANDED		
375	PROTEST SUSPENDED		
376	BOND FILED		
377	BOND TERMINATION RQSTD		

# Mandatory entry of action code required.

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Receipt of Notice of Intent Letter

BLM Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
State No. \_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

The enclosed Notice of Intent to Conduct Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations was received in this office on \_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_. This project has been assigned Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ No further information is required at this time. The terms and conditions will be ready for your party chief's signature on \_\_\_\_ ( date) \_\_\_\_\_.

The following additional information is required prior to commencing operations:

\_\_\_\_\_ If available, send the permit number issued by the State to conduct a seismic operation.

\_\_\_\_\_ Submit Proof of Bonding for Oil and Gas Exploration (Form 3000-4a) or acopy of your State or nationwide bond.

\_\_\_\_\_ Send a letter authorizing your company to act as an agent for use of this exploration project. Send a copy to their bonding company.

\_\_\_\_\_ A map (minimum scale of 1:100,000) of the seismograph lines(s) indicating the public lands crossed.

\_\_\_\_\_ Significant cultural resources listed or eligible for inclusion in the National Register are likely to occur along portions of the proposed route of the survey. Prior to conducting the proposed geophysical exploration operations, a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory shall be completed on the following lands:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

The purpose of such an avoidance survey is to ensure that geophysical operations will be offset from such cultural resources by an appropriate distance. The \_\_\_\_\_ (Area) BLM archaeologist will be able to schedule and conduct this survey by \_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_. If this timeframe does not meet your needs, you may have an archaeologist with a current Federal Antiquities Permit conduct this survey and submit the report to the authorized officer.

The portions of the geophysical survey route that are not affected by this cultural resource evaluation may be completed when cleared by the authorized officer.

\_\_\_\_\_ An evaluation of your geophysical exploration project in light of existing information indicates that threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat have been identified along the proposed route of the survey, and that such species or habitat may be affected by your action. That data indicates it is necessary to offset the type of survey you have proposed by \_\_\_\_\_ feet to avoid adversely affecting the species or habitat. Based on that information the following lands where the species or habitat are present must be inspected prior to starting operations to identify the locations where operations must be offset from such species and their habitat by an appropriate distance: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ (Area) BLM wildlife biologist will be able to complete this inspection by \_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_. If this timeframe does not meet your needs, you may have a qualified environmental consultant conduct the inspection and submit a report identifying the locations and proposed offsets to the authorized officer.

The portions of the geophysical survey route that are not affected by this cultural resource evaluation may be completed when cleared by the authorized officer.

Please refer to the assigned Serial Number in all correspondence. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, or the above address.

Sincerely,

Area Manager

Enclosure

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Cultural Resource Procedures for Geophysical Operations

Consult BLM Manual Section 3150 for a discussion of factors affecting whether or not a cultural resource inventory will be necessary for a given geophysical operation. The BLM, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) or in accordance with State-specific programmatic agreements, will determine the need for a cultural survey as well as the type and intensity of the inventories when they are required.

A lack of inventory data shall not, in itself, cause the BLM to recommend to the SHPO that a cultural resource survey is necessary. The BLM in its consultations with the SHPO will take the position that, because the proposed undertaking cannot affect historic properties, no cultural resources inventories will be required unless historic properties are:

1. Known or are likely to exist within the proposal's area of potential effect, and
2. The type of operation is likely to result in changes in character or use of such historic properties.

The determination of the likelihood that unidentified historic properties exist in the area of potential effect must be based on direct comparisons with existing inventory information of areas with similar environmental characteristics. These characteristics include but are not limited to slope, aspect, vegetation, land form, geology, and soils. The factors described in the decisionmaking process of BLM Manual Section 3150 shall be used when determining the level of cultural resource inventory.

If the timeframes for the BLM to complete cultural resource surveys are unacceptable to the operator, the operator has the option of providing the necessary surveys. If such cultural surveys require the use of cultural resource permittees, the operator shall be responsible for issuing and managing the contract with the cultural resource permittee. The cultural resource permittee shall be a current cultural resource use permit from the BLM. The BLM will still retain the responsibility for all official section 106 consultations with the SHPO and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

When historic properties are to be avoided during a geophysical undertaking, procedures for SHPO consultation regarding determination of effect and eligibility will follow either applicable Programmatic Agreement (PA) procedures or 36 CFR 800. If avoidance of adverse effects to historic properties is not feasible, consultation with the SHPO regarding treatment will follow either applicable PA procedures or 36 CFR 800.

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Where a Class III survey has been determined necessary, it will cover 50 feet on either side of center line or at least 25 feet beyond the limits of anticipated vehicular activities/surface disturbances created by projects that affect more than a 100-foot-wide survey area. A minimum of a 100-foot-wide survey is required. Additional inventory may be required for the shot-hole or poulter exploration methods in areas where historic properties may be affected beyond these limits (see Illustration 9). When it is necessary for vehicles to drive outside the area that received the original cultural inventory, whether because of topographic obstacles, manmade barriers, or to avoid a historic property, the path used to drive around the problem area will also be surveyed to the same standards employed during the original cultural resource survey described above. The operator may choose to flag the centerline and/or outer boundaries of the project area before the cultural survey is performed.

A Class III survey will not be performed until at least 70 percent of the immediate area to be inventoried is snow-free. In those conditions where a Class III is otherwise required, geophysical operations may be conducted without a Class III inventory if the ground is frozen or there is sufficient snow cover to avoid rutting of the underlying soil and those conditions will exist during the time of the operation. This determination should be made in consultation with the SHPO or pursuant to an appropriate PA.

Typical effects from common geophysical operations will provide guidance for cultural resource reviews. For the vibroseis method, consideration should be given to adverse effect through compaction and subsequent erosive rutting by heavy vehicular traffic, generally including above-ground structural features and subsurface sites in areas of wet, subirrigated, or loosely consolidated soils such as, but not restricted to, sand dunes. For the shot-hole method, consideration should be given to adverse effect through the passage of a heavy drill truck (if such is used), vibrations from high particle velocities to sites or site matrices without elasticity, and direct blast effects from shallow shot holes (5 to 10 feet below the surface) on properties buried at that depth (charges placed more than 10 feet below the surface, are unlikely to affect buried cultural properties). For the poulter method, consideration should be given to adverse effect from direct blast effect or air overpressure.

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Resource Protection Offsets for Cultural Resource  
Structures and Other Facilities

This addresses the immediate physical effects of vibrations on standing structures and rock art. The objective of developing the tables that follow is to establish recommendations for appropriate operating parameters. If the operator proposes to operate closer to a cultural resource structure or other facility than the identified distances, the burden is on the operator to demonstrate insignificant effects on those resources that BLM has previously identified along the survey route. If the BLM or other interested parties wish the operator to conduct operations farther from an identified resource, the burden is on the BLM or other interested party to demonstrate that an extended distance is necessary to provide adequate protection for such identified resources.

Peak particle velocities at the base of standing structures and rock art should not exceed 0.75 in./sec. (suggested maximum for drywall structures as published by the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement). Similarly, 140 dB is the OSHA-established maximum for impulsive sound. The following tables were derived from studies on effects to commonly investigated contemporary structures (for example, houses, water wells, pipelines, and springs) with additional buffers built in to protect more fragile cultural resources. Normal environmental conditions to which these resources are subjected on a daily basis and which cause similar effects include wind, temperature changes, humidity changes, and vibrations from aircraft, vehicle, and train traffic. It is unnecessary to add additional buffers to the established distances for either cultural resources or other facilities. Distances may need adjustment in saturated soils or extreme weather conditions. Under those circumstances, the BLM will be responsible for demonstrating that extended distances are needed to protect the resource.

Whereas particle velocities generated by dynamite are primarily a function of distance, shot-hole depth, and charge size, particle velocities generated by vibroseis activity are the result of many complex interacting factors. These factors include sources frequency bandwidth, sweep length, type of sweep, size and make of vibrators, number of vibrators, orientation and configuration of vibrators, source components (compressional or shear), and drive level. These factors in turn will be affected by soil types and seasonal conditions. It is not possible to devise a simple chart that takes all of these factors into account. Based on studies of vibration activity, a distance of 300 feet, under normal operating conditions, is recommended to ensure that the 0.75 in./sec. threshold will not be exceeded. As discussed in paragraph one, the burden of proof for increasing or decreasing this suggested distance is the responsibility of the agency or interested party wishing to make the change.

The tables below reflects direct effects only. Additional information on vibration sources and effects can be found in Blasting Guidance Manual, March 1987, from the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Illustration 10, Page 2

H-3150-1 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Resource Protection Offsets for Cultural Resource  
Structures and Other Facilities

TABLE I: RECOMMENDED SAFE DISTANCES FROM SURFACE SHOTS TO CULTURAL RESOURCE STRUCTURES AND OTHER FACILITIES

Maximum decibels at these distances will not exceed 140 DB under normal conditions. This Table uses a scaled distance of 470.

CHARGE SIZE (LB)	.33	.5	1	3	5	10	15	20	30	40	50	75
DISTANCE (FT)	325	373	470	678	804	1013	1159	1276	1460	1607	1731	1982

TABLE II: RECOMMENDED SAFE DISTANCES FROM BURIED SHOTS TO CULTURAL RESOURCE STRUCTURES AND OTHER FACILITIES

Under normal conditions peak particle velocity at these distances will be below 0.75 in/sec. This Table uses a scaled distance of 65.

CHARGE SIZE (LBS)	.33	.5	1	3	5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	75
DEPTH (FT)													
5	37	*46	*65	*112	*145	*205	*252	*291	*356	*411	*460	*503	*563
10	36	45	64	*112	*145	*205	*252	*291	*356	*411	*460	503	*563
15	34	43	63	112	*145	*205	*251	*290	*356	*411	*459	*503	*563
20	32	41	62	111	144	*205	*251	*290	*355	*411	*459	*503	*563
25	28	39	60	110	143	*204	*250	*290	*355	*410	*459	*503	*562
30	22	35	58	109	142	*203	*250	*289	*355	*410	*459	*503	*562
40	-	23	51	105	140	202	*249	*288	*354	*409	*458	*502	*561
50	-	-	42	101	136	199	247	*286	*352	*408	*457	*501	*561
75	-	-	-	84	124	191	240	281	348	*404	*453	*498	*558
100	-	-	-	52	105	180	231	273	342	399	449	493	554
125	-	-	-	-	74	163	219	262	333	392	442	488	549
150	-	-	-	-	-	141	202	249	323	383	434	481	543
175	-	-	-	-	-	108	181	232	310	372	425	472	535
200	-	-	-	-	-	47	153	211	295	359	414	462	526
225	-	-	-	-	-	-	113	184	276	344	401	450	516
250	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	148	253	326	386	437	504
275	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	226	306	368	422	491
300	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	192	281	348	404	476
325	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	145	252	325	385	460
350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	216	298	362	441
375	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	168	266	336	420
400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	95	226	306	396
450	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	226	338
500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59	259
550	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120
600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
650	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
700	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
750	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\* Some charge sizes, although safe from a distance standpoint, may be more prudently detonated in deeper boreholes.

- For the depth and charge size listed, no surface location should experience a peak particle velocity over 0.75 in/sec.

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Compliance Inspection for Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations

BLM Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
State No. \_\_\_\_\_

Resource Area: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of NOC: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Operation: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspection Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Deficiencies Note: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Recommended Actions: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Remedial Action Taken: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date Operator Notified: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Deficiencies Corrected: \_\_\_\_\_

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Request for Status of Operations

BLM Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

State No. \_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

A Notice of Intent to Conduct Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations  
(copy enclosed) was filed in our office on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_ for Serial Number  
\_\_\_\_\_.

If the exploration operations and reclamation have been completed and the  
Terms and Conditions complied with, please submit the enclosed Notice of  
Completion of Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations (Form 3150-5)  
along with a copy of your shot point or field map (minimum scale 1:24,000).

If the operations were not conducted, please notify us by return mail.

Please refer to the above serial number in all correspondence if you have  
any questions, please contact \_\_\_\_\_ at  
\_\_\_\_\_ or the above address.

Sincerely,

Area Manager

Enclosure(s)



H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

**NOTICES**

The Privacy Act and 43 CFR 2.48(d) require that you be furnished the following information in connection with information request by this form.

**AUTHORITY:** The Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 – 287), Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 341 – 359), Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 – 1782), and National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321 – 4347) permit collection of the information requested by this form. The BLM collects this information in accordance with 43 CFR parts 3150 and 3160. The FS collects this information in accordance with 36 CFR part 228.

**PRINCIPAL PURPOSE:** The BLM or the FS will use the information you provide to determine when oil and gas exploration operations are completed and to determine that mitigating measures are performed to protect the environment.

**ROUTINE USES:** The BLM will only disclose the information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, and the provisions at 43 CFR 2.56(b) and (c). The FS will only disclose the information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, and the provisions at 36 CFR 200.7 and 7 CFR 1.1.

**EFFECT OF NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION:** Submission of the requested information is necessary to obtain or retain a benefit. Failure to submit all of the requested information or to complete this form may result in revocation of your right to conduct geophysical exploration operations.

**The Paperwork Reduction Act** requires us to inform you that:

The BLM/FS collects this information in accordance with the statutes and regulations listed above, and for the purposes listed above.

Submission of the requested information is necessary to obtain or retain a benefit.

BLM/FS will use this information to process geophysical exploration notices.

Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit.

You do not have to respond to this or any other Federal agency-sponsored information collection unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**BURDEN HOURS STATEMENT:** The public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. You may submit comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (1004-0162), 1849 C Street, NW, Room 2134LM, Attention: Information Collection Clearance Officer, Washington, D. C. 20240.

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H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Example of a Receipt of Notice of Completion Letter

BLM Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
State No. \_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

Your Notice of Completion for Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations concerning Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_ was received in this office on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

These lines are scheduled for inspection for compliance with the provisions listed on the Notice and in the terms and conditions applied to your NOI signed by \_\_\_\_\_ (Crew Chief) on \_\_\_\_\_ (date). You will be notified regarding the findings of our field inspection by \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

\_\_\_\_\_ Existing weather conditions have not allowed us to inspect your exploration project for compliance with the terms and conditions applied to your NOI and signed by \_\_\_\_\_ (Crew Chief) on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) and you will be notified of our findings.

\_\_\_\_\_ The information you submitted was inadequate or incomplete. We need the following information before we can schedule this exploration project for inspection.

\_\_\_\_\_ Submit a shot point or field maps showing actual line locations, shot points, and any access routes. The map(s) must be at a minimum scale of 1:24,000 (7.5-minute USGS quadrangle or equivalent). If reproductions are used, they must be of good quality and legible. Public lands that are crossed must be indicated.

\_\_\_\_\_ Submit a copy of the "Hole Plugger's Log" describing each hole for all shot lines, i.e., whether holes were wet or dry, static water level if appropriate, any flowing holes, breached or caved holes, volume or bentonite used per hole, any lost hole locations, etc.  
(Note: This need not be requested for each survey.)

If you have any questions concerning this case, please contact \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, or the above address.

Sincerely,  
Area Manager

H-3150 - ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Example of an Inspection Notification Letter

BLM Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

State No. \_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

We received your Notice of Completion for Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations (NOC) on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_, concerning operations conducted under the NOI to Conduct Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations, Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_, dated \_\_\_\_\_, located in the \_\_\_\_\_ Resource Area of the \_\_\_\_\_ District.

The public lands over which you conducted your operations were inspected for compliance with the provisions listed on the OI and the terms and conditions on \_\_\_\_\_ (date) \_\_\_\_\_.

It has been determined that:

\_\_\_\_\_ The terms and conditions concerning the above geophysical operations have been complied with to the extent that a surface examination can disclose. You are hereby released from bond liability for causes of action accruing after this date in connection with operations conducted under the cited NOI to Conduct Oil and Gas Exploration Operations. This does not release you from civil or criminal liability for failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the NOI.

\_\_\_\_\_ You have not complied with the terms and conditions attached to the NOI. The corrective actions required are listed below. Please notify this office when the required actions have been completed. In accordance with 43 CFR 3154.3, your bond obligation will not be released until the listed deficiencies have been corrected.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, or the above address.

Sincerely,

Area Manager

**H-3150-1 – ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS (PUBLIC)**

**BLM Standard Terms and Conditions**

1. The operator shall contact the Field/District Office at least 48 hours prior to the start of the project to schedule a pre-work conference. The crew supervisor and additional crew chiefs (if needed) will attend the pre-work conference to discuss the terms and conditions for this operation.
2. The operator's representative will attend a meeting with the BLM to discuss cultural artifacts and potential penalties for tampering with cultural artifacts. The meeting can be held as part of the pre-work conference.
3. The operator will obtain permission from right-of-way holders prior to drilling and setting charges within authorized limits of the rights-of-way.
4. Existing routes and trails will be used to the maximum extent possible. The heliportable drill or other BLM approved technique will be used on the areas with steep slopes and rough terrain. Attempts to traverse irregular, soft, or steep slopes and terrain by all vehicles and equipment shall be kept to a minimum to avoid excessive rutting, soil erosion, excessive crushing of vegetation, and excessive visual impacts. Vehicular travel along the flagged lines will be kept to a minimum and be in a zigzag pattern between source points to reduce straight line disturbances. This procedure does not apply to vehicles following trails or roads.
5. Vehicular travel shall be suspended when ground conditions are wet enough to cause rutting or other noticeable surface deformation and severe compaction. As a general rule, if vehicles or other project equipment create ruts in excess of four inches deep when traveling cross-country over wet soils, the soil shall be deemed too wet for vehicular use.
6. The staging area(s) will be situated with good, safe access to county roads or state highways. The fuel truck for the helicopter will also be utilized at the staging area(s).
7. The staging area(s) shall be kept clean and free of litter. Appropriate human waste facilities will be provided and properly maintained. Such waste facilities shall be removed from the site upon completion of the project.
8. Roads will not be constructed for geophysical projects authorized under a categorical exclusion.
9. Operators of vehicles and equipment shall be responsible for not damaging fences and keeping gates as found. As a last resort, should a fence be cut for access, that fence must be repaired to former or better condition, after equipment has passed through.
10. Shot holes will be backfilled and plugged, in accordance with state regulations, after they are loaded with the explosive charge. Any cuttings resulting from shot hole drilling and not used in

**H-3150-1 – ONSHORE AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS (PUBLIC)**

backfilling the shot hole will be scattered about the immediate area to blend with natural terrain and reduce visual impacts.

11. Geophysical equipment may encounter congested areas with trees requiring one or more trees to be removed and or limbed. If such action is needed then the tree(s) and or limb(s) shall be less than eight (8) inches at diameter breast height (dbh) or at the base of the branch. Trees to be cut or limbed which are located adjacent to public roads, communities and or public facilities shall be immediately cut into smaller pieces so that it is not aesthetically displeasing and dispersed within the immediate vicinity.

12. Any and all tire tracks one hundred feet (100'), leading away from an established dirt or two-track road situated on public lands, will be hand raked to blend into the surrounding soil surface.

13. If soil is disturbed to the extent that erosion is likely or visual impacts are readily apparent, the disturbed areas will be rehabilitated utilizing the following techniques:

Ruts and vehicle tracks will be filled with soil and/or obliterated by either hand raking or similar method. When completing this work, care will be taken to minimize disturbance to surrounding lands that have not been disturbed. All areas where rehabilitation work is accomplished will be reseeded with the seed mixtures specified below:

**Seed Mix**

(To be provided by the local BLM Field/District Office.)

The seeded area should be hand raked to assure the seed is covered with approximately ¼ to ½ inch of soil. This seeding should be accomplished during the late fall, in October or November, before moisture conditions become prohibitive.

The seed shall be certified, pure live seed, and seed tags must be available if requested by the authorized officer. Certified weed free seed is to be used to rehabilitate disturbed land.

14. Setbacks and Buffers: the operator will adhere to setbacks or “buffer zones” that are set forth in the following tables.

**H-3150-1 – ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS (PUBLIC)**

**Offset in Feet, from Certain Objects  
(based on pounds of explosive charge)**

<b>Object</b>	<b>½ lb</b>	<b>1 lb</b>	<b>2 lbs</b>	<b>3 lbs</b>	<b>5 lbs</b>	<b>6 to 10 lbs</b>	<b>11 to 15 lbs</b>	<b>16 to 20 lbs</b>
Pipeline less than 6" diameter	50'	100'	150'	150'	200'	250'	300'	400'
Pipeline 6" to 12" diameter	75'	150'	200'	200'	300'	400'	500'	600'
Pipeline greater than 12" diameter	100'	200'	250'	250'	300'	500'	600'	800'
Telephone line	20'	20'	30'	40'	40'	50'	50'	50'
Railroad Track or main paved Highway	50'	100'	150'	150'	150'	220'	280'	350'
Electric Powerline (Shot holes not to exceed 200' depth)	75'	100'	200'	200'	200'	200'	250'	300'
Water wells, buildings, underground cistern, and all other similar objects	225'	300'	400'	450'	700'	800'	1000'	1200'
Brick and/or concrete block buildings	275'	400'	500'	600'	800'	1000'	1200'	1500'
Producing oil and gas well	250'	450'	600'	700'	800'	900'	1000'	1000'
Irrigation wells	500'	800'	1000'	1200'	1500'	2000'	2500'	2500'

**Minimum Safe Offset In Feet for Vibrator Truck Operations**

<b>Structures</b>	<b>Distance (ft)</b>
Residences, Buildings, Concrete Base Structures	300
Water Wells	350
Concrete Water Pipeline	100
PVC/Plastic Water Pipeline	20
Oil or Gas Well	250
Oil or Gas High Pressure Pipelines	30
High Voltage Power Lines	0
Local Transmission Power Lines	0

15. No equipment, only foot traffic laying receiver lines, will be used in swampy/wetland areas.

**H-3150-1 –ONSHORE OIL AND GAS GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION  
SURFACE MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS (PUBLIC)**

16. If any unanticipated prehistoric or historic archaeological sites or paleontological sites are encountered during the geophysical work, the work shall stop and the appropriate BLM archaeologist at the Field/District Office will be contacted. If a site is found, it will be recorded. The BLM will assume responsibility for evaluation and determination of significance, related to the historical or archaeological site. All known cultural resources sites will be avoided. Collection of any cultural or paleontological artifacts, bones or fossils from Federal lands is specifically prohibited.
17. Visible migratory bird nests will be avoided and not disturbed.
18. All equipment will be power washed prior to entering Federal lands to help mitigate the spread of noxious plants.
19. In order to minimize watershed damage and disturbance to game animals utilizing important seasonal wildlife habitat, seismic activity will only be allowed during the period from May 15 to December 15. Exceptions to this limitation may be specifically approved by the authorized officer.
20. When fire conditions reach high, the helicopter, vehicles, and equipment will carry water, shovels, and other fire fighting equipment to extinguish any fires that are accidentally started by the seismic operations.
21. If oil, lubricants and other petroleum or man-made products are accidentally spilled onto the ground surface, the BLM will be contacted and provided specific information about the spill and/or leak. Spills or leaks will be cleaned from the soil and any contaminated material will be bio-remediated or disposed of at an authorized landfill.
22. All flagging, lath, pin flags, and similar materials used in the seismic project will be removed from public land and disposed of at an authorized landfill.
23. All Applicant-Committed Environmental Protection Measures documented in the applicant's NOI will be complied with in addition to these terms and conditions.