Administration, and MMS) worked with States and private industry to develop guidelines for spill-response exercises that would meet the requirements of OPA. The drill requirements set forth in this document parallel the PREP guidelines. The MMS has determined that the proposed requirements for tabletop drills for the spill management team satisfy the purpose and goal of the act's requirement that the response plan describe the periodic unannounced drills to be carried out under the plan. The tabletop exercises will drill owner or operator personnel who make decisions and organize the response to a spill. These personnel must be drilled using a spill scenario that is unannounced prior to the drill. The MMS will also periodically initiate unannounced drills to test the preparedness of owners and operators.

The MMS published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR) in the **Federal Register** on August 12, 1992 (57 FR 36032), soliciting comments through September 28, 1992. In the ANPR, MMS presented four optional methods for developing these new rules and solicited comments on the four options. The MMS received 48 comments from various individual companies and trade associations within the offshore petroleum industry, support contractors, State and local governments, and Federal agencies.

The MMS developed this proposed rule taking into account the comments received on the ANPR and the experience gained in developing and implementing the interim final rule at 30 CFR part 254. The interim final rule, covering only the spill-response portion of MMS's new authorities, and only facilities located in the OCS or in the territorial sea, was published in the Federal Register on February 8, 1993. The MMS is interested in receiving comments from all interested parties and especially those who have experience in developing spill-response plans in response to the interim final

The MMS plans no public hearing at this time. Persons wishing to request a public hearing should make a request by writing to MMS at the address provided above. If a public hearing will aid in the development of a final rule, the date and time of the public hearing will be announced in the **Federal Register**.

Author: This document was prepared by Lawrence Ake, Engineering and Technology Division, MMS.

E.O. 12866

This proposed rule was reviewed under E.O. 12866. The proposed rule

was determined to not be a significant rule under the criteria of E.O. 12866.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Department of the Interior (DOI) has determined that this proposed rule will not have a significant effect on a substantial number of small entities. In general, the entities that engage in offshore oil and gas activities are not considered small due to the technical and financial resources and experience necessary to safely conduct such activities.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The collection of information contained in this proposed rule has been approved by to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) as required by 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. The collection of this information has been assigned OMB clearance number 1010–0091.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 106.5 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer; Minerals Management Service; Mail Stop 2053; 381 Elden Street; Herndon, Virginia 22070-4817 and the Office of Management and Budget; Paperwork Reduction Project (1010-0091); Washington, DC 20503.

Takings Implication Assessment

The DOI certifies that the proposed rule does not represent a governmental action capable of interference with constitutionally protected property rights. Thus, a Takings Implication Assessment need not be prepared pursuant to E.O. 12630.

E.O. 12778

The DOI has certified to OMB that these proposed regulations meet the applicable standards provided in sections 2(a) and 2(b)(2) of E.O. 12778.

National Environmental Policy Act

The DOI has determined that this action does not constitute a major Federal action affecting the quality of the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

List of Subjects in 30 CFR Part 254

Continental shelf, Environmental protection, Oil and gas development and production, Oil and gas exploration, Oil pollution, Pipelines.

Dated: November 1, 1994.

Bob Armstrong,

Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 30 CFR part 254 is proposed to be revised as follows:

PART 254—RESPONSE PLANS FOR FACILITIES LOCATED SEAWARD OF THE COAST LINE

Sec.

254.0 Authority for information collection.

254.1 Purpose and implementation.

254.2 Definitions.

254.3 General requirements.

254.4 Submission of information.

254.5 Response plans for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) facilities.

254.6 Worst case discharge.

254.7 Determining response equipment capacities.

254.8 Training.

254.9 Drills.

254.10 Maintenance and periodic inspection of equipment.

254.11 Equipment performance testing.

254.12 Notification requirements.

254.13 Plan revision and resubmission.

254.14 Response plans for facilities in State waters located seaward of the coast line.

254.15 Approval of plans.

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1321.

§ 254.0 Authority for information collection.

The information collection requirements in 30 CFR part 254 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. and assigned clearance number 1010-0091. The information is being collected to inform the Minerals Management Service (MMS) of owner, operator, and lessee preparations for response to potential pollution of the offshore environment. The requirement to respond is mandatory. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 106.5 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burdens indicated for a specific information collection or any other aspect of the collection of information pursuant to the provisions of this part, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer; Minerals Management Service;