Executive Order (E.O.) 12866

The Department of the Interior (DOI) reviewed this proposed rule under E.O. 12866 and determined that this document is not a significant rule.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

The DOI has determined that this proposed rule will not have a significant economic effect on a substantial number of small entities. Any direct effects of this rulemaking will primarily affect OCS lessees and operators—entities that are generally not small due to the technical complexities and financial resources necessary to conduct OCS activities.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approved the collections of information contained in this proposed rule under 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq., and assigned clearance numbers 1010–0050 and 1010–0006.

Takings Implication Assessment

The DOI certifies that the proposed rule does not represent a governmental action capable of interference with constitutionally protected property rights. This action does not require a Takings Implication Assessment prepared pursuant to E.O. 12630, Government Action and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights.

E.O. 12778

The DOI has certified to OMB that this proposed rule meets the applicable civil justice reform 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 significantly affecting the quality of the human environment; therefore, this action does not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

List of Subjects

30 CFR Part 250

Continental shelf, Environmental impact statements, Environmental protection, Government contracts, Incorporation by reference, Investigations, Mineral royalties, Oil and gas development and production, Oil and gas exploration, Oil and gas reserves, Penalties, Pipelines, Public lands—mineral resources, Public lands—rights-of-way, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Sulphur development and production, Sulphur exploration, Surety bonds.

30 CFR Part 256

Administrive practice and procedure, Continental shelf, Government contracts, Incorporation by reference, Oil and gas exploration, Public lands—mineral resources, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Surety bonds.

Dated: May 12, 1995.

Bob Armstrong,

Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 30 CFR parts 250 and 256 are proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 250—OIL AND GAS AND SULPHUR OPERATIONS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

1. The authority citation for part 250 is amended to read as follows:

Authority: 43 U.S.C. 1334.

2. Section 250.160 is amended by revising the fifth sentence and adding a new sentence following the fifth sentence in paragraph (a) to read as follows:

§ 250.160 Applications for a pipeline rightof-way grant.

(a) * * * A nonrefundable filing fee of \$2,350 and the rental required under $\S 250.159(c)(2)$ of this part must accompany a new right-of-way application. MMS will periodically make technical amendments to adjust the filing fee according to the Consumer Price Index "U". * * * * *

3. Section 250.163 is amended by revising the last sentence in paragraph (b) and adding a new sentence following the last sentence to read as follows;

§ 250.163 Assignment of a right-of-way grant.

(b) * * * A nonrefundable filing fee of \$60 must accompany the application for the approval of an assignment. MMS will periodically make technical amendments to adjust the filing fee according to the Consumer Price Index "U".

PART 256—LEASING OF SULPHUR OR OIL AND GAS IN THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF

4. The authority citation for part 256 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.

5. Section 256.64 is amended by revising the first sentence in paragraph (a)(2) and adding a new sentence following the first sentence to read as follows:

§ 256.64 Requirements for filing of transfers.

(a) * * *

(2) A nonrefundable filing fee of \$185 must accompany an application for approval of any instrument of transfer required to be filed. MMS will periodically make technical amendments to adjust the filing fee according to the Consumer Price Index "U". * * *

[FR Doc. 95–19233 Filed 8–10–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4310–MR–M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

37 CFR Part 1

[Docket No. 95-0720187-5187-01]

RIN 0651-AA79

Rules of Practice in Patent Cases; Reexamination Proceedings

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: The Patent and Trademark Office (Office) is proposing to amend its rules of practice in patent cases to provide revised procedures for the reexamination of patents. H.R. 1732 proposes to authorize the extension of reexamination proceedings as a means for improving the quality of United States patents. The Office intends, through this proposed amendment of its rules, to provide patent owners and the public with guidance on the procedures the Office would follow in conducting reexamination proceedings.

DATES: A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 1995, at the Stouffer Renaissance Crystal City Hotel, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia, 22202 at 9:30 a.m. Those wishing to present oral testimony must request an opportunity to do so no later than September 14, 1995. Written comments must be submitted on or before September 22, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments concerning the rule changes should be addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box DAC, Washington, D.C. 20231, marked to the attention of Gerald A. Dost, Senior Legal Advisor, Special Program Law Office, Crystal Park 1, Suite 520. In addition, written comments may also be sent by facsimile transmission to (703) 308–6919 with a confirmation copy mailed to the above address, or by electronic mail messages over the Internet to reexamrule@uspto.gov.