

FEDERAL OIL SHALE PROGRAM

SUBPART 3170—OIL SHALE: GENERAL

§ 3170.0-1 *Purpose.*

These regulations govern the availability for leasing of a limited acreage of oil shale lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior. The objectives are to:

- Foster improved technology for the mining and recovery of shale oil and other mineral components of oil shale;
- Encourage competition in development and use of oil shale and related mineral resources and develop a basis for subsequent competitive leasing of Federal oil shale lands;
- Encourage participation by companies not favorably situated with respect to access to reserves of the minerals present in oil shale;
- Prevent speculation and windfall profits;
- Provide reasonable revenues to the Federal and State Governments;
- under mining operation and production practices that are consistent with good conservation management of overall resources in the region.

§ 3170.0-3 *Authority.*

These regulations are issued pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act of February 25, 1920 (41 Stat. 445), as amended, (30 U.S.C. 181-287).

§ 3170.0-5 *Definition of Term "Oil Shale."*

As used herein, the term "oil shale" means sedimentary rock containing organic matter which yields substantial amounts of oil or gaseous products by destructive distillation. The term includes all the minerals which are components of the rock, but does not include:

- (a) deposits of minerals which may be interbedded in the sedimentary rock series and which the Secretary determines can be mined (i) without removal of significant amounts of organic matter and (ii) without significant damage to oil shale beds; and
- (b) deposits subject to lease as oil and gas asphaltic minerals, or coal.

§ 3170.1 *Designation of Available Lands.*

The Secretary will from time to time publish notices in the *Federal Register* designating areas of oil shale bearing lands and deposits for the conduct of particular types of mining, extraction, or processing activities which will be made available for leases for research and development and for subsequent commercial operations in accordance with these regulations. Areas will be selected with a view to encouraging research on a variety of mining and processing methods under a variety of conditions of mineral depths, composition, thicknesses and qualities, and taking into consideration sound principles of conservation and environmental protection. A total of no more than 30,000 acres of oil shale bearing lands will be designated hereunder. Oil shale bearing lands, the surface of which is under the administrative jurisdiction of a Federal agency other than the Department of the Interior, will not be designated hereunder.

SUBPART 3171—APPLICATIONS FOR LEASES

§ 3171.1 *Qualifications of Applicants.*

- (a) Leases may be issued to:
 - (1) Citizens of the United States;
 - (2) Associations of such citizens;
 - (3) Corporations organized under the laws of the United States, or any State or Territory thereof;
 - (4) Municipalities.
- (b) The term "associations" includes partnerships, syndicates, groups, pools, joint ventures and other unincorporated organizations.

§ 3172. *Form and Contents of Applications.*

- (a) No form of application is prescribed.
- (b) Applications should be in writing and filed in triplicate in the Office of the Director, Bureau of Land Management, Interior Building, Washington, D.C., 20240, notwithstanding the provisions of section 3001.0-6 of this chapter.
- (c) The application should provide:
 - (1) The complete name(s) and address(es) of the applicant(s).