Royalty Policy Committee

Charter

1. **Official Designation:** Royalty Policy Committee

2. **Scope and Objectives:** The Royalty Policy Committee (Committee) will provide advice to the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) related to the performance of discretionary functions under the laws governing the Department of the Interior's (Department) management of Federal and Indian mineral leases and revenues. The Committee will review and comment on revenue management and other mineral-related policies and provide a forum to convey views representative of mineral lessees, operators, revenue payors, revenue recipients, governmental agencies, and the interested public.

3. **Description of Duties:** The duties of the Committee are solely advisory and are stated in the Scope and Objectives above.

4. **Duration:** The Committee's charter may be renewed in 2-year increments by the Secretary as long as the Minerals Revenue Management (MRM) Program of the Minerals Management Service (MMS) requires the expertise and advice of the Committee.

5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports:** The Committee will report to the Secretary through the Director of the MMS.

6. **Bureau Responsible for Providing Necessary Support:** The Minerals Management Service.

7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs:** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Committee's functions including all direct and indirect expenses are estimated to be $75,000 plus the support of 1.5 full-time employees.

8. **Allowances for Committee Members (compensation, travel, per diem, etc.):** Members of the Committee serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, Committee, subcommittee, or workgroup members engaged in Committee, subcommittee, or workgroup business approved by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Federal Government service under Section 5703 of Title 5 of the United States Code (U.S.C.).

9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:** The Committee will meet at the request of the Director, MMS, but not less than once a year.

10. **Termination Date:** The Committee is subject to biennial review and will terminate 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless renewed prior to that date. The charter is renewed in accordance with section 14(a) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). The Committee is subject to the provisions of the FACA, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2, and shall take no action unless in compliance with the charter filing requirements of section 9 of FACA.

11. **Committee Membership:** The Secretary will appoint non-Federal members and their alternates to the Committee to serve a 3-year term. Non-Federal members may not serve more than two consecutive terms as a member. However, after a 2-year break in service, any such non-Federal member will again be eligible for appointment. The Secretary may revoke the appointment of the member and the alternate if the appointed member or alternate fails to attend two consecutive meetings. All members serve at the discretion of the Secretary.

    Non-Federal Members: To ensure fair and balanced representation with consideration for the efficiency and fiscal economy of the Committee, the Secretary may appoint members selected from, but not limited to:

    - Up to five members representing states that receive significant royalty revenues from Federal leases.
    - Up to five members representing Native Americans.
    - Up to seven members representing the various mineral interests including oil, gas and coal.
    - Up to three members representing the public-at-large who have knowledge and interest in royalty issues.

    Federal Members: The following officials, or their designees, are nonvoting, ex officio members of the Committee:

    - Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs
    - Director, Bureau of Land Management
    - Director, Minerals Management Service

12. **Ethics Responsibility:** No Committee or subcommittee member shall participate in a specific party matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct financial interest.

13. **Designated Federal Officer:** Associate Director for MRM.

14. **Subgroups:** The Committee may have workgroups or subgroups that the Department deems necessary for the purpose of compiling information or conducting research. However, such workgroups may not conduct business without the direction of the Committee and must report in full to the Committee. The Committee Chair, with the approval of the DFO, will appoint subcommittee or workgroup members. Subcommittees or workgroups will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.

15. **Authority:** The Committee is in the public interest in connection with the responsibilities of the Department of the Interior. Authority for this Committee is under the:

- Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2, Section 9;
- Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et. seq.);* including provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-058);
- Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 (30 U.S.C. 1701 *et. seq.*) (1996);
- Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Simplification and Fairness Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-185);
- Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001 *et. seq.*);
- Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 *et. seq.*);
- Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 351 *et. seq.*); and
- Mineral Leasing Laws for Indian Land.

Secretary of the Interior

MAR 27 2008

Date Signed

APR 02 2008

Date Filed