

## Bureau of Land Management, Interior

## § 3275.11

### § 3274.11 What must I give BLM to approve my commercial use permit application?

Submit a complete and signed commercial permit form with the following information:

- (a) The design, specifications, inspection, and calibration schedule of production, injection, and royalty meters;
- (b) A schematic diagram of the utilization site or individual well showing the location of each production and royalty meter. If the sales point is located off the utilization site, give us a generalized schematic diagram of the electrical transmission or pipeline system, including meter locations;
- (c) A copy of the sales contract for the sale and/or utilization of geothermal resources;
- (d) A description and analysis of reservoir, production, and injection characteristics, including the flow rates, temperatures, and pressures of each production and injection well;
- (e) A schematic diagram of each production or injection well showing the wellhead configuration, including meters;
- (f) A schematic flow diagram of the utilization facility, including interconnections with other facilities, if applicable;
- (g) A description of the utilization process in sufficient detail to enable BLM to determine if the resource will be utilized in an acceptable manner;
- (h) The planned safety provisions for emergency shutdown to protect public health, safety, property and the environment. This should include a schedule for the testing and maintenance of safety devices;
- (i) The environmental and operational parameters that will be monitored during the operation of the facility and/or well(s); and
- (j) Any additional information or data that we may require.

### § 3274.12 How will BLM review my commercial use permit application?

- (a) When we receive your complete and signed commercial use permit, we will make sure it is complete and review it for compliance with the requirements of 43 CFR 3200.4.
- (b) If another Federal agency manages the surface of your lease, we will

consult with them before we approve your commercial use permit.

(c) We will review your commercial use permit to make sure it conforms with your utilization plan and any mitigation measures we developed while reviewing your plan.

(d) We will check your commercial use permit for technical adequacy and will ensure that your meters meet the accuracy standards. See 43 CFR 3275.14 and 3275.15.

(e) If we need any further information to complete our review, we will contact you in writing and suspend our review until we receive the information.

(f) After our review, we will notify you whether your permit has been approved or denied, as well as any conditions we require for conducting operations.

### § 3274.13 May I get a permit even if I cannot currently demonstrate I can operate within required standards?

Yes, but we may limit your operations to a set period of time, during which we will give you a chance to show you can operate within environmental and operational standards, based on actual facility and well data you collect. Send us a sundry notice to get BLM approval for extending your permit. If during this set time period you still cannot demonstrate your ability to operate within the required standards, we will terminate your authorization. You must then stop all operations and restore the surface to the standards we set in the termination notice.

## Subpart 3275—Conducting Utilization Operations

### § 3275.10 How do I change my operations if I have an approved facility construction or commercial use permit?

Send us a complete and signed sundry notice describing your proposed change. Until we approve your sundry notice, you must continue to comply with the original permit terms.

### § 3275.11 What are a facility operator's obligations?

- (a) Your obligations are to:

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(1) Keep the facility in proper operating condition at all times;

(2) Conduct training during your operation which ensure your personnel are capable of performing emergency procedures quickly and effectively;

(3) Use properly maintained equipment; and

(4) Use operational practices which allow for quick and effective emergency response.

(b) Base the design of the utilization facility siting and operation on sound engineering principles and other pertinent geologic and engineering data; and,

(c) Prevent waste of, or damage to, geothermal and other energy and minerals resources.

(d) Comply with the requirements of 43 CFR 3200.4.

### **§ 3275.12 What environmental and safety requirements apply to facility operations?**

(a) You must perform all utilization facility operations to:

(1) Protect the quality of surface and subsurface waters, air, and other natural resources, including wildlife, soil, vegetation, and natural history;

(2) Prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the lands;

(3) Protect the quality of cultural, scenic and recreational resources;

(4) Accommodate other land uses as much as possible;

(5) Protect people and wildlife from unacceptable levels of noise;

(6) Prevent injury; and

(7) Prevent damage to property.

(b) You must monitor facility operations to identify and address local environmental resources and concerns associated with your facility or lease operations.

(c) You must remove or, with BLM approval, properly store all equipment and materials not in use.

(d) You must properly abandon and reclaim any disturbed surface to standards approved or prescribed by us, when the land is no longer needed for facility construction or operation.

(e) When we require, you must submit a contingency plan describing procedures to protect public health and safety, property, and the environment.

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(f) You must comply with the requirements of 43 CFR 3200.4.

### **§ 3275.13 Does the facility operator have to measure the geothermal resources?**

Yes, the facility operator must:

(a) Measure all production, injection and utilization in accordance with methods and standards we approve (see 43 CFR 3275.15); and

(b) Maintain and test all metering equipment. If your equipment is defective or out of tolerance, you must promptly recalibrate, repair, or replace it. Determine the amount of production and/or utilization in accordance with the methods and procedures we approve (See 43 CFR 3275.17).

### **§ 3275.14 What aspects of my geothermal operations must I measure?**

(a) For all well operations, you must measure wellhead flow, wellhead temperature, and wellhead pressure.

(b) For all electrical generation facilities, you must measure:

(1) Steam and/or hot water flow into the facility;

(2) Temperature of the water and/or steam into the facility;

(3) Pressure of the water and/or steam into the facility;

(4) Gross electricity generated;

(5) Net electricity at the facility tailgate;

(6) Electricity delivered to the sales point; and

(7) Temperature of the steam and/or hot water exiting the facility.

(c) For direct use facilities, you must measure:

(1) Flow of steam and/or hot water;

(2) Temperature into the facility; and

(3) Temperature out of the facility.

(d) We may also require additional measurements depending on the type of facility, the type and quality of the resource, and the terms of the sales contract.

### **§ 3275.15 How accurately must I measure my production and utilization?**

It depends on whether you use the meter in calculating Federal production or royalty, and what quantity of resource you are measuring.

(a) For meters that you use to calculate Federal royalty: