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IN RE: PUBLIC MEETING RELATED TO THE RULE:

MINING OF THE OSAGE MINERAL ESTATE FOR OIL AND GAS

25 CFR 226

TAKEN IN SKIATOOK, OKLAHOMA
ON FEBRUARY 8, 2023

REPORTED BY: DAVID BUCK, CSR

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comments up until March 17th.

ne format for tonight. This should be other public meetings you may have attended st. There will be two parts of it. First, wo presentations. We have some copies of nere. These will also posted online. But come first. And we will hear first from u of Indian Affairs to provide more on about the proposal and the second we'll the Office of Natural Resources Revenue. cipal Chief Standing Bear will also provide a as a personal comment and then we may kind on from there. And that will start the The second part of our meeting, which will est important part of the meeting, which is to make your comments. So please talk at you might want us to know about that s you individually or your organizations that resenting tonight.

There will -- sorry, multiple ways to get your comments into the public record. You can come up and do it tonight, you can go online to regulations.gov and submit electronically, you can also mail or hand deliver your comments to me.

All right, I think that's it. So without

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MS. GENOVA: All right, we still have seats up here in the front, seats up here if you like, a few in the middle back there where it's closer to hear us. So feel free to come on up, don't be shy.

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So I just wanted to welcome all of you. My name is Leslie Genova and I'll just be your facilitator for the meeting tonight. This is the meeting on the Mining of the Osage Mineral Estate for Oil and Gas Pumping Units. So welcome everyone.

Okay. I just want to talk a little housekeeping matters as we get going here. The purpose of the night is to hear from you. We'll also be providing some information and some presentations. We have a court reporter here who is here to make sure your words are accurately captured. As you came in you should have been asked to fill out a comment card if you're interested in speaking tonight. If you have one and you filled it out and you would like to speak you have to turn it in at some point, come up front and give it to the guy, he will put it in the pile for you.

And let's see, and also if you change your mind and later on you'd like to make a public comment, you can also do that towards the end and certainly after you leave there's other opportunities to give further adieu, I will call Eddie Streater from BIA to the podium. Thank you.

MR. STREATER: Good evening, everyone. I know quite a few people here, but my name is Eddie Streater and I'm the regional director for the Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs. I want to express my appreciation for everybody coming out. The weather certainly wasn't the best in the world this evening, but we managed to make it here and looks like we're going to have a full house and be able to do what we want to do and we'll going to get a lot of good public comments and a lot of good ideas here and that's what we plan on doing. I'm going to give an overview, it's of the rule and then ONRR will also follow up with their presentation and then we'll get into the public comment, but that's what we're here today is to hear from you. So we'll let them set up the lectern there and then we'll get started.

All right. As everyone knows, this public meeting is regarding the BIA's proposal to revise the regulations in 25 CFR 226 which cover oil and gas mining as designated in the video. And I want everybody to keep in mind the proposed rule is just that. It's proposed revisions to the current regulations that we would like for feedback on. The

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provisions to the regulations are not set in stone and 2 there are no changes that lessee or operator need to make right now. The currently regulations in 25 CFR 226 are still authoritative and lessees and operators must comply with those regulations until a final rule has been issued and goes into effect. So nothing is going to change. This is a proposal for rule. We are still operating under CFR 226 as of current. As you

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Can we get you closer to the

MR. STREATER: I'm not really sure. We'll see how this goes. Can you hear that better?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Yeah.

MR. STREATER: Okay. Could we change the slide?

We're having a little background of what is -why 226 is in place currently. The Congress passed the Act June 28th, 1906 to provide for a lot of the Osage Indian reservation. Section 3 of the Osage Act severed the surface estate of the reservation from the 1.47 million acre subsurface mineral estate, which we'll refer to as the Osage Mineral Estate, and reserving all oil and gas and other minerals in the

Osage Nation in perpetuity. Accordingly, the United

States holds the Osage Mineral Estate in trust for the

the regulation are to, one, strengthen BIA's

management of the Osage Mineral Estate, two, improve

production accountability to ensure that the Osage

4 Nation receives the full value of oil and gas

resources, three, allow the Office of Natural Resource

Revenue, or ONRR, to take over the Osage Agency's

royalty management program, which includes royalty

8 payments, processing, royalty reporting, production

reporting and related audit and enforcement functions,

10 modernize the regulations and make them consistent 11 with the regulations governing all other Indian oil 12

and gas leases DOI administers nationwide, clarify the 13 superintendent, lessees, operators and reporting 14 obligations to safe environmentally sound operations.

> Next slide. Due to the length of time that has passed since the last update to the regulations, a number of changes must be made to accomplish the goals identified in the prior slide. And the following is an overview of some of the significant proposed changes of the regulation.

Next slide. The current regulation provides for three types of leases of the Osage Mineral Estate, oil only leases, gas only leases and a combination of oil and gas leases. Under the proposed rule there's just one time of lease, combination oil and gas.

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benefit of the Osage Nation pursuant to the 1906 Act. The 1906 Act authorizes the Osage Nation to lease the Osage Mineral Estate for oil and gas mining subject to 4 the approval of the Secretary of the Interior and under such rules and regulations as the secretary may prescribe. The regulations governing oil and gas leasing and development within the Osage Mineral Estate are set forth in 25 CFR 226.

Next slide. The regulations in 25 CFR 226 need to be revised for several reasons. First, the regulations have not been updated in 49 years. The last substantive revision of the regulations took place in 1974. Second, the regulations do not account for advances in technology since the 1970s. Third, the regulations do not reflect modern oil and gas operations within the Osage Mineral Estate. Fourth, the regulations are inconsistent with industry standards for oil and gas operations. Fifth, the regulations are inconsistent with oil and gas regulations governing the rest of Indian country. And finally, the regulations must be revised to implement certain recommendations from the 2014 Office of Inspector General OIG report regarding the BIA's management of the Osage Nation's mineral resources.

Next slide. The BIA's goals for revision of

Page 9

Combination oil and gas leases issued under the proposed rule by combination oil and gas leases that

3 issue under the current regulations give the lessee 4 the right to produce both oil and gas from a lease but

5 do not require the lessee to produce both oil and gas.

6 This change only applies to leases issued after the 7 effective date of the final ruling. Oil only and gas

only leases issued before the effective date of the final rule will remain valid until they terminate due 10 to lack of production or are surrendered by the lessee

11 or canceled by the superintendent for cause. 12

Next slide. The current regulations set the annual rentals at one dollar per acre, or fractional acre, for oil and gas and gas only leases and two dollars per acre, or fractional acre, for combination oil and gas leases. As previously noted, under the proposed rule all new leases will be a combination oil and gas lease. Those leases will be eight dollars per acre or a fraction of that. This change only applies to combination oil and gas leases issued after the effective date of the final rule. The rental rate for all leases issued before the effective date of the final rule will remain the same.

Next slide. The current regulation require the filing of insurance bonds for each lease. Three

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operations.

types of bonds are allowed, a lease bond, which is 5,000 for each quarter section or fractional quarter section covered by the lease, two, a collective bond, which is 50,000 for oil and gas leases to which lessee is, or may become, a party to in total mine acres of 10,240 acres or less, and three, a nationwide bond, which is 150,000 for all oil and gas leases to which 8 the lessee is, or may become, a party within the United States. Under the proposed rule there are also 10 three types of performance bonds available. Number 11 one is the individual well bond, which will be six 12 dollars per foot of measured well depth for existing 13 wells or projected well depth for proposed wells, the 14 individual well put on to replace the lease bond. 15 Two, the county wide bond, which is 75,000 for oil and 16 gas leases and saltwater disposal easements to which

States and all saltwater disposal easements within the Osage Mineral Estate.

The \$5,000 lease bonds and \$50,000 collective

lessee is, or may become, a party within the United

the lessee is, or may become, a party within the Osage

Mineral Estate with a total mine acreage of 10,240

collective bond. And three, the nationwide bond,

acres or less. And the countywide bond replaces the

which \$150,000 for all oil and gas leases to which the

Osage Mineral Estate. And three types of bonds are allowed for geophysical exploration, the individual exploration bond, which is \$5,000 covering a specific tract of the Osage Mineral Estate identified in the application for the geophysical exploration permit, two, countywide exploration bonds, which are 25,000, covering all geophysical exploration operations within the Osage Mineral Estate, and three, the nationwide exploration bond, which is \$50,000, covering all geophysical exploration operations within the United States. Lessees with valid countywide or nationwide bonds for lease operations under the proposed rule may file bond rider to cover geophysical exploration

Next slide. The current regulations require lessees to submit a monthly report by the 25th day of the month following the production month indicating the total amount of oil, gas and other products subject to royalty payment. Production is currently reported by lease. Lessees submit monthly reports to the Osage Agency and the report shall be paper form that must be submitted by mail. Under the proposed rule the lessee would submit a separate royalty and production report. Lessees must submit monthly royalty reports on or before the last calender day of

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bonds filed valid producing leases before the effective date of the final rule will remain valid, subject to limitations. Grandfathered leases and collective bonds are an acceptable form of financial security for the lessee of record on the effective date of the final rule only. The right to maintain the grandfather bond cannot be transferred by assignment or otherwise to any other person or entity. Grandfather leases and collective bonds only cover unplugged wells located on the lease or leases that 11 the lessee drilled and completed, operated or 12 controlled before the effective date of the final 13 rule. Lessees with grandfather leases and collective 14 bonds must file bonds that comply with the new bonding 15 requirements in the proposed rule for all wells they 16 drill, reenter, recomplete or accept the assignment 17 after the effective date of the final rule. 18

Next slide. The current regulations do not specify bonding requirements for geophysical exploration operations, but provide the superintendent has broad authority both in pre bond amounts and apply any regulatory requirements in 25 CFR 226 to parties conducting geophysical exploration operations. The proposed rule imposes specific bonding requirements for geophysical operations on lease tracts of the

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the month following the production month. Lessees must submit a monthly production report on or before the 15th day of the second month following the production month. Production will be reported by well. Both royalty and production reports will be submitted to ONRR. Forms will be submitted electronically using ONRR's eCommerce reporting system unless the report qualified for an exemption in the electronic reporting.

Next slide. The current regulations require lessees to pay royalty based on the actual selling price, but not less than the highest posted price by a major purchaser in Osage County that purchases the oil, gas — purchases oil produced from the Osage Minimal Estate. Under the proposed rule lessees will pay a royalty based on the greater of the NYMEX calendar month average price of oil at Cushing, Oklahoma for the month in which the oil was removed or sold, adjusted for gravity or, two, the actual selling price adjusted for gravity.

Next slide, please. The current regulations have a different settlement value for gas depending on whether the gas was produced from an oil lease or a gas lease. For gas produced from an oil lease the lessee must pay royalty based on the market value of

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the casinghead gas and all products extracted therefrom, less a reasonable allowance for manufacturing or processing. For gas produced from a gas lease the lessee must pay royalty based on the value of all natural gas and products extracted therefrom. Under the proposed rule the settlement value for gas is the same regardless of whether it's produced on an oil lease, gas lease or a combination oil and gas lease. The lessee must pay royalty for 10 all gas and gas plant products based on the measured 11 volume of gas, heating value, and ONRR monthly index 12 zone price of gas for Oklahoma Zone 1. No deductions 13 or allowances are permitted but a monitary

> Next slide. Commencement money and tank siting fees are paid in certain prior to the commencement of operations or siting of tanks on a lease and are a credit for the settlement surface damage. The current regulations require commencement money and tank siting fees of \$300 per well, \$25 per seismic shot hole, \$100 per tank for tanks that are 50 feet square or less and amounts of less -- the amount the lessee and the surface owner negotiate for tanks that are 50 feet square or larger. Under the proposed rule commencement money and tank siting fees are

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- production and accountability and site security. 2
 - Under the proposed rule with several new requirements
 - designed to improve both of those. One, site facility
- 4 diagrams are required for all permanent facilities,
- 5 two, facility measurements points, or FMPs, will be
- 6 used in production reporting, lines leaving and
- entering oil storage tanks must have valves capable of
- 8 being sealed and valves to provide access to
- production before it is measured for sale is also to 10

be sealed. Existing valves may be modified to meet the seal requirement.

Next slide. The current regulations broadly requires lessees to measure oil using methods the superintendent approves and meters and installations must be tested as a directed by the superintendent. The proposed rule incorporates specific requirements for oil measurement and equipment by clarity and improving accountability. The proposed rule incorporates American Petroleum Institute, or API, standards for oil measurement by reference. The proposed rule explicitly states that tank gauging, LACT system, and the Coriolis measuring system are authorized for the measuring of oil and excepts for the installation and operation of measuring equipment. The proposed rule also specifies procedures and that

Page 15

\$1,500 per well, \$25 per seismic shot hole, \$12 per acre or fractional acre occupied while conducting the seismic survey, and \$200 per tank regardless of volume. And remember that under the proposed rule that would be a credit for the final settlement.

Next slide. The current regulations require lessees to conduct all operations in a safe and workmanlike manner but not specific requirements for operations for hydrogen sulfide areas. Under the proposed rule lessees must test the H2S concentration of the degree as well and production facilities completed and calculate the radius of exposure of the wells and facilities that have an H2S concentration of 100 parts per million or more. Lessee must submit public protection plans for notification of the DIA, tribe, public, federal and state agencies and public safety personnel in the event of a release of potentially hazardous volumes of H2S if 100 parts per million or a 500 parts per million radius of exposure is of sufficient distance that includes certain areas. The proposed rule also imposes operating, safety and training requirements for operators.

Next slide. The current regulations generally require lessees to report accidents, theft and vandalism like other provisions to ensure proper

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must be used for measurement of tanks by tank gauging to ensure consistency and accuracy. The proposed rule also imposes specific meter proving requirements. All equipment and procedures used to measure oil that was in use on lessee's approved -- on leases approved before the effective date of the final rule must comply with the new requirements within one year from the effective date of the final rule. All leases approved after the effective date of the final rule must comply to the new measurement requirements immediately.

Next slide. The current regulations require gas to be measured by an orifice meter unless the superintendent agrees to an alternative method of measurement. The proposed rule imposes specific requirements and standards for gas measurement to provide clarity and approve accountability. The proposed rule incorporates API, GPA Midstream and American Gas Association (AGA) standards. The proposed rule provides specific requirements for the installation and operation of orifice meters as well as mechanical recorders and electronic gas measurement (EGM) systems, and flow computers. The proposed rule imposes specific inspection, calibration and verification requirements for gas measurement

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equipment and components thereof. The proposed rule also imposes detailed gas sampling and analysis requirements. All equipment and procedures used in gas leases approved before the effective date of the final rule must comply with the new requirement within one year from the effective date of the final rule. All leases approved after the effective date of the final rule must comply with the new measurment requirements immediately.

Next slide. The current regulations contains general prohibition on conducting operations in a manner that results in the waste of oil and gas. But the definition of waste is broad and the payment of royalty or wasted volumes is not specifically discussed, though it is required. The proposed rule explicitly states the royalty is due on all oil and gas avoidably lost or wasted including the final production of unavoidable -- and is unavoidable versus unavoidably lost or wasted. The proposed rule also imposes the allegation to prevent drainage from wells on adjacent leases with lower royalty rates and requirements to pay compensatory royalty for drainage if production action is not taken within a reasonable time.

Next slide. Under the current regulations the

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and conditions of the lease. The regulations in 25

CFR 226 and orders or notices the superintendent issue shutting in and actual cancellation of a lease is also

⁴ permitted. The BIA and ONRR will determine the amount

of civil penalties to be assessed by considering, one,

the severity of the violation, two, history of

noncompliance, and/or three, the size of the lessees'

report -- the lessee's, reporter's or payor's

business

Next slide. Under the current regulations the party may appeal decisions or orders the superintendent issues with the BIA regional director pursuant to 5 CFR Part 2. Subsequent appeals of the BIA regional director's decisions are made to the Interior Board of Indian Appeals, the IBIA, pursuant to 43 CFR Subpart D. Under the proposed rule appeals of the decisions of the superintendent and BIA regional director issue are still filed pursuant to 25 CFR 2 and 43 CFR 4 Subpart D respectively. However, appeals decisions and ONRR issues must be appealed to the director of ONRR under 25 CFR 226. Subsequent appeals of the director of ONRR's decision must be made to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, IBLA, pursuant to 43 CFR 4 Subpart E.

Public comments on the proposed rule must be

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superintendent issued a Notice to Lessees prohibiting the venting and flaring without prior approval. The proposed rule codifies the existing prohibition on venting and flaring without the superintendent's prior approval and sets forth specific exceptions for, one, initial production testing, two, subsequent well tests, three, downhole maintenance and, four, emergencies. The proposed rule also requires lessees to measure or estimate and report the volumes of gas vented or flared regardless of whether royalty was due.

Next slide. The current regulations impose civil penalties for violation of the terms and conditions of the lease, the regulations in 25 CFR 226, and orders or notices the superintendent issues consisting of five and/or cancellation of the lease. In lieu of such penalties, the current regulations allow the superintendent to impose specific civil penalties for the violation of certain operating regulations. The proposed rule updates the civil penalties so that they're consistent with the penalties the BOI imposes for the same violation. Under the proposed rule there are immediate assessments for the violation of certain operating regulations and civil penalties for violation of terms

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submitted to the BIA on or before March 17th, 2023. You may submit public comments orally at the public meeting today, which that's what we're here for today, online at regulations.gov or by mail/courier or hand delivery. Additionally, the information regarding the submission of public comment including the delivery addresses for comments submitted by mail/courier or hand delivery are in the Federal Register notice. As I noted earlier, we would like your feedback on the proposed rule when you submit a public comment. And if you could for the court reporter, please identify the specific regulatory provision and paragraphs you're commenting on. Be as specific as possible and explain your reasoning and if your comment is based on research or formal documentation, please be sure to include citations and provide a copy of the materials you relied on, if possible. And feel free to propose alternatives for our consideration. If there's another industry standard you think should apply than the one we selected or if there's a better, easier. less burdensome way to achieve the same result.

And as noted before, the public comment period on the proposed rule closes on March 17th, 2023.

After the public comment period closes, the BIA will review the public comments received and make changes

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to the rule as proposed. Once additions are complete
 the BIA will publish the final rule with the Federal
 Register. The final rule will go into effect 30 days
 after it's published, not 30 days after the comment
 period ends.

So, and with that, I will turn it over to ONRR, I believe. We'll have a short overview of how the wording will look.

MS. LOCKLER: Good evening. I'm April Lockler. I'm the program manager for data intake solution and coordination program. We are responsible for the intake validation processes as they pertain to the customer, reference, oil production and reporting.

Thank you. This presentation is guidance and not binding on ONRR. It does not provide legal advice and should not be construed as stating ONRR's legal interpretation or position. Any reliance on this presentation does not limit ONRR in its compliance activities or in the appealable decisions and orders it may issue.

Next slide. Today I'm going to briefly cover our eCommerce, which is our electronic reporting portal, and then we will take a short dive into the oil and gas operations report, or the OGOR report, and then we will wrap up with the ONRR form 2014, which is Page 24

have access and permission to submit. Here you will see different things like the document type. So if you're reporting production and royalties you will see a header for the quarter and 2014. You will also see a report ID. This report ID is helpful in tracking reports that you have submitted. If you need to stop and start you can always reference that report ID the system generated. In this document list you can also find the registration information. This will be the place that you go to upload a file if you want to submit your reporting in that manner. You can also view your upload history. If you want to look at your last month's report you'll be able to access the report in there. There's also a wonderful help section within eCommerce. It will take you to the fact sheet and some tips and tricks for using the system and even for reporting.

Next slide, please. There's two main ways to create a report. The first option is uploading a file. Two of the common file types are the ASCII, which is a text file, and a CSC. On that ONRR.gov page that I mentioned earlier, that reporting section available to you sets up in an ASCII and a CSC port. Once you have your file updated and ready to go, you just hit that select button right there and it will

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Next slide. ONRR got developed as a storage

for all reporting entities' references. To those new

to reporting the page is at ONRR.gov. On the very

first page you will learn about the steps needed to

take for establishing your reporter ID, access

requests to be prepared for electronic reporting

requirements.

our electronic report.

Next slide. Once you have the access

requirements granted, we will next venture over to the

ONRR.gov reporting page. Here you will find a way to

access our eCommerce portal as a reporting portal on

that page or you can also just go directly to the

site, which is https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/ZSY9Cwp6DJipBWHK2Aef? domain=onrrreporting.onrr.gov.

Next slide, please. If you are like me and

sometimes forget your password, when you come to the

log in page you can enter your user name that was

given to you when you had your access granted and then

you hit the nice little password button and it will

take you, it will get your password reset as well. So

that's a nice little trick just if you're like me and

you can't remember the passwords you have.

Next slide, please. Once you all log on to

the eCommerce system you will be seeing a document.

This is the one stop shop for all the reports that you

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ask you what file you want to upload and you check the file and it will upload and make sure that it's consistent with the format provided to you.

Next slide, please. The second comment which I'm actually going to walk through for both the OGOR and the 2014 is the data entry activity. On your document list in that other section based on your access you will see either a new 2014, EMP 2014, compliance 2014 an oil and gas operation report or production allocation schedule report, which is only used for offshore reporting. So you all don't need to worry about that. So, if you sit there and you hit that new 2014 button or the new OGOR button we'll kind of walk through what that looks like.

The oil and gas operations report, Form 4054, allows ONRR to account for oil and gas production activity. This form while provided and used for ONRR activities really helps drive the production program of our federal --

Next slide. The OGOR report Form 4054 is broken up into four parts, the header page, the OGOR-A, which is the production volume by well, the OGOR-B, which is production volume by dispositions, and then the OGOR-C, which is the oil inventory and sales table.

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Next slide, please. The OGOR header. This is the screenshot that you will see in the first piece when you log onto that new OGOR reporting and this is what I was talking about in that data entry perspective. What you'll see here in the header is report type, you're operator ID will be assigned to you, the agreement number or lease number that you are producing from, the agency lease number, so the number generated by BIA, production month, so wherever you're producing, when you are producing it, and then last but not least the ONRR signed document A. That operator document name is an eight digit alphanumeric and it is called --

Next slide, please. The OGOR-A accounts for all production and injection data on a lease area improvement by well in producing intervals including the well check. The OGOR-A identifies the status and the volume for each well on your lease or agreement for which the operator is responsible. The key component of the OGOR-A includes the U.S. well number or what was previously known as the API. That well is added to a producing gas well, you know, if oil shut in well or as well as the production and production volumes associated with that well.

Next slide, please. Made me turn the page.

inventory production, sales and adjustments. The key

- function and components of the OGOR-C include use only
- for oil condensate accounting when inventory can be
- ⁴ carried on from month to month, it tracks your
- inventory overage. The reported inventory must match prior and subsequent months. That beginning inventory plus the production minus your sales and adjusted

volumes equals that ending inventory, which will be your next month's beginning inventory.

Next slide, please. Next will be the review the form 2014, the report of sales and royalty remittance.

Next slide, please. Very similar, when you select the new 2014 button you'll see that the report total is broken up into three parts, you have your header, you have your detail and your trailer. The header captures very similar to the OGOR but a payor code, the type of report, is it federal or Indian, and then also the payor assigned document, which is very similar to operator assigned document. The details shows basically the information attributable to those sales, what lease was it, what month was it, were there any adjustments made, were there processing and transportation allowed. And then the trailer is really for the payment information that goes in

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Bear with me.

The OGOR-B, this encompasses the total disposition of the lease production for each product produced on that OGOR-A. My favorite part of these forms is here in the OGOR, you'll see the total volume section, so the volumes that you showed on the well information on the Part A then will carry over to that Part B. So if an oil well here you'll see that 225 barrels, you'll see that on the Part A, the Part B and I'll get to the Part C is there too. Disposition may include direct sales, transfers, in any lease or agreement in use. Dispositions and adjustment codes, what we call DC codes, are used to account for the total disposition of the product being produced on those lands. They will be direct sales, transfers, and lease agreements. Here you'll see the disposition detail for product volumes for that well produced and you'll see two lines for the gas that was produced from the first well on A and it's broken up into basically royalty volumes and then beneficial use on

Next slide, please. The OGOR-C accounts for production and sales attributable to a lease that are produced into inventory report production is sold from a storage facility. It identifies any inventory,

accordance with that royalty and sales report.

Next slide, please. After clicking that new 2014 button you've created a new report that you can track that automatically generated ID. The report will have a drop down menu, a list of the payor codes that they have responsibility for. Once you populate that payor code section it will also coordinate with the company's — following that. As I mentioned, that payor's same document number is an eight digit alphanumeric that is company generated.

Next slide, please. The key components to the detail section of form 2014, you will have an ONRR lease number and ONRR agreement number in reporting allocated sales production. You will also report a product code and a sales type code, are you with an arm's length contract or a non arm's length contract or are you reporting under index type. You will also be reporting your sales rates. And then the key components to the royalty equation are the sales volumes and sales value, the royalty value prior to allowance, any transportation and processing allowances and then the total royalty due, which is royalty value less --

Next slide, please. We are here to help provide assistance for submitting accurate and timely

9 (Pages 30 to 33)

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reports. Here you will see that we have two
envelopes, one for production reporting, one for
royalty reporting. We also have an Indian Payor
Handbook where if you need scenarios on Indian land
and then we also provide training videos and have a
YouTube channel as well for report submission.

Thank you.

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MS. GENOVA: Okay. We have made it to the public comment portion of the meeting. In order to provide public comment we would ask please let us just know in advance if you can so that we can ensure your names and put you into the order. I know there were some folks who took a sheet to your seats. Is there anyone who would like to comment who hasn't had a chance to turn their form in yet? If so, you can just bring it the font, but I just need to collect them if you want to say something.

Okay. So, how this will work is we'll call you up two at a time. When the first person is speaking the second person will start to work their way up to the front to be on deck to speak. If you need some help getting the microphone to you, you can just let me know and we'll run one over to you. And I would like to remind everybody while you're making your comments that the agency will not be responding

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Chairman Waller, the Osage Minerals Council, please say hi. All you Osage shareholders and our oil and gas partners, I'm Geoff Standing Bear, principal chief of the Osage Nation. I've also been a headright owner since 1975. We thank the federal officials who have traveled here today. We want to remind everyone that our mineral estate is a product of the unique history of the Osage Nation. Unlike almost any other tribe, the Osage Nation purchased its reservation using our own funds which helped us resist traditional allotment policies and insist on unique provisions that are ultimately included in the 1906 Act. The 1906 Act reserved the mineral estate as a trust asset for the benefit of the Osage people. This is a unique situation and we understand the BIA has put a great deal of effort into developing the proposed rule, but I have concerns. The proposed rule is too long, too detailed and, above all, very complicated. The main rationale for the proposed rule discussed in the preamble is the inspector general's 2014 report regarding management of the Osage Mineral Estate. The inspector general's report initially recommended that the regulations be amended to mirror other Indian oil and gas regulations, but the BIA did not agree with this recommendation based on discussions with our

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tonight, just be listening, but we'll take all your comments into consideration which will be reported by the court reporter and will be put into a response.

Okay. We would like to ask that you limit your comments to two minutes and we have a little timer over here and we'll give you a 30 second warning when you're running out of time, so just keep that in mind as you're preparing your remarks. We will try to give you advanced warning. If you run out of time and we'll go through the speakers, you will be given the opportunity to go again as long as there's time at the end of the meeting. And when you come up to speak, please give us your name and your representative organization, please state the name of your organization prior to giving your comments. We will call the commenters from the cards that we have here. Again, you are welcome to continue to put those in as long as the meeting is open and we will allow more time once we get through the first set of commenters.

So without further adieu, I will call the first commenter of the evening. Everyone please welcome our first commenter, Chief Standing Bear of the Osage Nation. He will be followed by Everett Waller, who is with the Osage Minerals Council.

CHIEF STANDING BEAR: Test, one, two. Thank you.

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Osage Mineral Council. In the end the 2014 report accepted the BIA's position and considered the issue resolved. We have unique challenges. Oil and gas production on Osage Nation is dominated by small producers operating -- many on operating stripper wells that produce less than three barrels of oil per day. These low production wells do not allow for directional drilling and many producers must now rely on secondary and tertiary recovery methods.

This mature oilfield is unique in Indian country and I have concerns that this long and complicated rule does not adequately consider this specific situation. The Minerals Council of the Osage Nation has asked that BIA not to issue a proposed rule and instead work collaboratively with the council in developing new regulations. The assistant secretary responded by telling the council that consultation would not be possible until after publication of the proposed rule, which he said had already been finalized, but then 11 months go by before the proposed rule is published just last month. Under the Department of Interior's tribal consultation policies issued November 22, before the proposed rule is published, these regulations should have been subject to the highest level of consensus seeking. They

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should also have been deferred to the Osage Minerals Council and the Osage Nation and appropriate standards. Unfortunately, it seems that the last government consultation was held back in October of 2016. Much has changed since then. We hope to restart the consultation process and find consensus on the regulations.

Consistent with the Indian Tribal Energy Development Self Determination Act, the proposed rule should include provisions that would provide the Osage Nation and the Osage Minerals Council with an option to manage and develop its energy resources through other federal laws. The proposed rule contains 15 subparts and 185 sections. It takes up to 48 pages of the Federal Register with hundreds of additional pages of industry standards and practices incorporated into the regulations by reference. This contrasts with the current regulations which have only four subparts and 53 sections. If the proposed rule is as complex as it appears to be, the new regulations might drive our producers off the reservation and into other counties where permits will be processed in days, not weeks or months.

According to the preamble, the regulatory cost for an average lessee will increase by 18,000 to

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With these comments in mind, it would be 2 helpful to hear from the BIA how the proposed rule 3 would advance tribal self determination, sovereignty 4 and self governance and facilitate the development of 5 the mineral estate which is of critical importance to 6 our Osage headright goals. Thank you.

> MS. GENOVA: Next we'll hear from Everett Waller, who is with the Osage Minerals Council. On deck will

be Paul Revard from the Osage Minerals Council. MR. WALLER: I got turned around. I'm not supposed to speak to the back of my brothers and sisters here. I will take care of this. It's not the most important part. The most important part is I have my Osage shareholder elders behind me. I've been doing this since 1979 so, we'll take care of business at hand. And now you want me to talk to you. Well, get ready to listen. What we have is a problem, we're not communicating with what we're being told. I represent the Osage Minerals Council and we didn't have a consultation as the federal law says. Your own Supreme Court wrote about last week, which I happened to be in trying to protect the sovereignty of my nation, that we didn't even get the opportunity here.

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\$26,000 per year. I am concerned that smaller producers cannot bear these costs, royalty payments who aren't headright owners will go down, not up. I'd like to hear more about how the BIA assessed the impacts of these regulations on small producers. The proposed rule mentions that the BIA attempted to address this issue with a regulatory impact analysis, but that report is available only on request. I would ask the BIA to please send a copy of this regulatory impact analysis to my team and the Osage Minerals Council.

We witnessed the litigation of the 1979 environmental assessment and we understand how much uncertainty can be caused. I am similarly concerned that the complexity and length of this proposed rule will serve to discourage oil and gas production, not facilitate it.

Finally, in summary, after reviewing the proposed rule, it is less than clear whether it will help facilitate oil and gas leasing of the Osage Nation, make the permitting process more efficient or encourage production of this important trust resource. The proposed rule here seems to accomplish none of these goals and was developed without adequate government to government consultation.

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- 1 heard. I've been sitting here and I'm tribal and I'm 2 not going to be a visitor to the Osage reservation.
- 3
- My children is why I'm here. But my elders in the
- 4 room see other reasons. This is strictly to them.
 - This estate was taken care of by our great
- 6 grandparents. I should know, they drove over everyone

I have great council. This is my fifth council and I

think that we need to be heard. I know I want to be

- to get here. And then how do we work together when we
- 8 don't even have an opportunity to tell you how this is
- 9 going to work. If I have a code of federal
- 10 regulations that has killed my production and these
- 11 folks right here that serve our people and their
- 12 families just like us, why am I going to go to a
- 13 proposed rule that I didn't even look at? Yeah, you
- 14 send me the draft, but the law says you had to come
- 15 and see the chief and I with our congress and our
- 16 council. That is mandatory. Any other time I want to
- 17 get to talk when we're in Federal Court. I've never
- 18 been a chairman without being in Federal Court.
- 19 Something is wrong with that.

20 Something else too, we have one obligation and 21 that's to the youngest person that's Osage today. 22 It's going to be -- and I will say this openly, is,

23 yeah, I'm that guy. Twenty-two years ago you know who 24 I am. And I was here for you then, I'm going to be

here for my people later. I hope to tell you I'm

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going to have to turn over this floor to my council.

The last thing is you don't have to consult with us. You are a federal trustee. Now if you're not going to cash that check and you hurt it in any way, that's not your job. Your job is to build it up. I was here back in the BIA in 1979 and we were dealing hundreds of permits. Again, I even have some council

here that I met with and we did hundreds of permits. We got the lease -- didn't even do the workover unit, but I can tell you this, if this does not help our

10 11 production get up, you leave us very few options. 12

Councilman Revard, it's all yours, sir. MS. GENOVA: Myron Red Eagle is up next. MR. REVARD: Hello. Yes, my name is Paul Revard. This is my second term on the Osage Mineral Council. I was first selected to the Osage Mineral Council four in 2018 and now we are a council referred to as the Osage, the fifth Osage Mineral Council in our first

seven months or so. So we're pretty, pretty just recently elected, we're starting to get our feet wet as a collective unit. And this is such a major issue

that addresses us right off the bat. And so I want to

23 say that in addition to being an elected official 24 representing our headright owners, I'm also a

headright owner, we all councilmen are, but I've also

draft that was not acceptable to the producers and if

2 it's not acceptable -- or nor to the Osage Mineral

3 Council and for lots of reasons. But since then, and

4 this is the modern picture, since then I'm looking at

you all as our trustee and through those eyes who are

6 supposed to be helping us develop our asset. We've

had the revision of the CFRs that we all agree that

8 probably need revision, but since then we've also had

the NEPA that the Chief mentioned earlier, which is

very cumbersome and maybe really not applicable to our

11 mineral estate. Those are for federal lands and I

12 believe that they just really are not applicable on

13 our mineral estate. That's a whole other issue, but

14 it is something that our producers have to comply

15 with. Then we have the FOIA. In 2014 the secretary

16 of defense had come out with a policy I guess it was

17 to lock up all of our well records and take them to

18 Kansas or somewhere, but that is -- that's a jugular 19

vein type of attack on our mineral estate is to lock 20

up our well records and very damaging. But then after

21 that, after the FOIA, the Freedom of Information Act, 22

then we had the fish and wildlife, which is our

23 trustee, the federal government, U.S. Fish and 24

Wildlife throw this American Dream eagle at us which

25 was harmful and it just brought drilling to a

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been an Osage oil and gas producer for 46 years now I

think it is. 1977 is when I drilled my first well.

And I saw on the screen a little earlier and Mr. Streater made reference to the last time these

regulations were revised or amended was in 1974. My

copy, which is pretty weathered, is something that's

kind of my Bible to our producers it's referred to and

referenced often. Mine says the last revision was May

1st of 1994. That's what's stamped on mine. I don't

know what the difference is between '74 and '94. I've

11 only been operating here since '77 and a producer.

12 But we've gone from this pamphlet, which is not --

13 which is antiquated. I think that there's very little

14 controversy about that. These need to be revised, but

15 this is not the answer. The Chief said so just a 16

minute ago that this is way too cumbersome, way too 17

involved, it's not digestible. So, you know, from a 18 broad picture, you all are the trustees of our mineral

19 estate, we are beneficiaries, we headright owners, and

2.0 we elected officials here represent the headright

owners. You all are trustees, you're to help us

protect and develop our assets and this mineral estate

23 is a large asset worth billions of dollars. And so

24 when the CFRs were going to be revised back in 2012,

2013, it ended up in Federal Court in 2015, that was a

screeching halt. If that's not enough, then we're doing the EIS and we had to deal with the EIS and

we're replacing a -- the environmental assessment

from, what, 1978, '79. I think the Chief made

5 reference to that too, the EIS. And then now you're

back with the CFRs again. It's like at what point --

I just feel like we have incoming all the time, it's

incoming, incoming. So where is it that you're

helping us? You're supposed to be helping us to

10 develop our mineral estate. And I just don't know --

I just don't see that. All I see is attack right and

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13 And let me say this. And I know that I'm 14 getting close to my two minutes. You know, when I 15 first came here as a producer I followed the footsteps 16 of my great grandfather Franklin and my father George

17 Revard who served on the council a couple of times.

18 Franklin 38 consecutive years. My cousin, Susan

19 Foreman, a former council member, we share the same 20

great grandfather. Back in those days Osage County 21

was the premier, it was a gold nugget, it was the 22

place to be. You could raise money, all you had to do 23 is say I got a deal in Osage County and you could get

24 an audience and you'd get an introduction to get the

25 show you're drilling to somebody if you had Osage

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- County. And you know one reason why? Because it had
- low risk, it was shallow and it had the best well
- records of anywhere in the United States. You cannot
- develop or generate a drilling prospect without well
- records. So it was one mineral owner, which was
- really unique and really favorable, but now -- and
- ⁷ I'll give you an example. Before I was on the council
- 8 the first time I had somebody from California cold
- call me, an investment group, who said so and so told
- me to call you and so and so was supposed to be a
- friend of mine and I didn't recognize the name and it
- 12 was a friend of a friend of a friend I guass bind of
- was a friend of a friend of a friend I guess kind of
- deal and they said you need to call Paul Revard. If
- you got some drilling money and some develop money, I
- know a guy in northeastern Oklahoma that could help
- you spend some of it. So this guy cold calls me and I
- said, oh yeah, I know of some properties in Osage
- County that -- I mean, I got the word that out and I
- got stopped and they said, oh, wait a minute, anywhere
- but Osage County. He said that to me, anywhere but
- Osage County. That's where we are. And why is
- because it's not just this one book of regulations.
- If somebody new came to Osage County what would you
- give them to teach them how to operate here? You'd
- say, well, here's the CFRs, here's the code of federal

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lingering is damage to us, our headright owners. It's going to affect, it's going to deter development

capital into our mineral estate. So it's already

harmed us and continuing to harm us.

And finally, I want to say, that the comment period after tonight, the written comment period, March the 17th. Is that correct? I would like to request, I'd like to say demand, but, you know, I don't think I have that authority, but I'd like to request that you delay any further efforts on this document until such time that you do what you all promised us you would do and that is to meet with Chairman Waller's mineral council and consult with us so that we could possibly jointly come up with a reasonable set of regulations that not only protects you all and your trust responsibility to our headright owners to protect and develop our mineral estate, but also to make it a document that is workable for these guys to risk their dollars to come to Osage instead of anywhere but Osage. Let's bring it back to Osage.

With that, I thank you all.

Let's make it to where they can come back.

MS. GENOVA: Myron Red Eagle. And on deck is Joe Cheshewalla.

MR. RED EAGLE: My name is Myron Red Eagle. I'm

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regulations. This is how you do business in Osage as an operator. Well, that's only part of the story.

And you're getting ready to change this little

pamphlet with this. And the Chief made reference to

that. This is just -- it's just a no go from the

getgo.

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But not only this, but then you'll have to know about what is this NEPA deal going on, what's this about EIS. And oh, by the way, we understand that after you learn all of this, then you have to find out, well, what about the policies. What policies? The superintendent has the discretion to create policies. And I won't get into the weeds and tell you the ones I'm familiar with, and they fluctuate. The one superintendent may have a policy one year, change it the next year or maybe a new superintendent may have a different set of policies, but then you have to know in addition to these and the NEPA and the EIS and the fish and wildlife, now you have to know what's the superintendent's policies.

So, I'll close with this since I'm getting close to the end of my two minutes. The damage -- this here, publication of this in the Federal Register has already, has already damaged our mineral headright owners. Just the fact that it's out there and

on the Osage Mineral Council.

(Speaking Osage)

I don't think I'll take as much time as Paul did. I want to repeat the Osage Bureau of Indian Affairs mission statement. It applies to what we're talking about tonight. The mission statement states, the mission of the Bureau of Indian Affairs is to enhance the quality of life, to promote economic opportunity and to carry out the responsibility to protect, to protect and improve the trust assets of American Indians. Indian tribes and Alaska natives.

I'd also like to point out this doesn't really apply to our Osage Mineral Estate. We're American Indians, right. We're an Indian tribe, tribal nation or nation we're called today but we're not Alaska natives, we're not the Navajo reservation, we're not the Sioux reservation, we're not the free affiliated or anybody like that, any other Indian tribe. We're different, totally different. All our leases, all our royalty goes to our shareholders. In different tribes they go to different -- I know, I lived around Anadarko years ago. Every leaseholder down there got just independent royalty, the whole tribe didn't get any. If they had a lease on their land that's what they got. Here, the Osage people, they share

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royalties. That's different. Just like everybody up there, I hear a lot of people say, we're different and we're unique. It's very true.

Last night the president of our United States, President Biden said I'm want to work with the people, I want to work with the people. You all remember that, you watched that. He said I want to work with Democrats, I want to work with Republicans. One of the last things he said, I want to work with Indians and Indian tribes, Indian tribes. He saved us a place. Indian tribes. We are used to that, we're used

But what I want to point out is, Chief -- I don't want to take up too much time, I'm a man of few words. The Chief said there's room for consultation here. There's much room for consultation. This is not a done deal and we have many people who we represent, producers who count on us, shareholders, they count on us, some of the -- they count on us. So, it's up to our trustee.

I also want to point out one thing to you. In 1906 my grandfather was 26 years old and when they made that 1906 Allotment Act. It wasn't the 1906 Act, it was the 1906 Allotment Act, one year before Oklahoma became a state. And when they did that they Page 48

1 it over 157 times and I never really seen any --2

hardly any mention of the OMC. And that's got to

3 change. We've got to come to some sort of, some sort 4

of middle ground there because 157 times the 5

superintendent with broad authority, no, no. We got to have the OMC in there too.

And I'll give the rest of my time to Councilman Shackelford.

MS. GENOVA: Anthony Shackelford. And Lee Levinson on deck.

MR. SHACKELFORD: Good evening. Thank you for this opportunity to share some thoughts about what we're here tonight. Moving forward from the 1906, and we're accustomed to seeing improvements made and simplifications made to the tedious and complicated processes that were initiated a long time ago and as the Chief spoke earlier, he made a lot of great points, so did Mr. Waller and everybody before me this evening, is that we're not seeing things whenever we ran for office and we shared with our relatives and people that we revered, our elders that we're going to step into this seat and this position and make things better for you, we're going to increase the production, we're going to work with the producers and

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appointed an Osage Tribal Council to go along with the

row that they had. Ain't that right, Chief? When

that happened the Osage Tribal Council over a hundred

years evolved into the Osage Mineral Council. We

still represent the same people. Thank you.

MS. GENOVA: Joe Cheshewalla. And Anthony

Shackelford is on deck.

MR. CHESHEWALLA: Good evening, everybody. Joe Cheshewalla, Osage Mineral Council, second term and I'm also an ex employee for the Bureau of Indian

Affairs minerals department for 30 years. Worked

under our CFRs that we had, you know, for all my career and seemed like it was a pretty good deal

because, you know, we had a lot of business going on

for the 30 years I was working there. And now we've

got the same -- now suspiciously it's almost become the size of the BLM handbook. Our lessees can't work

with that. We know that. We still need to work

together and come together with some kind of agreement

2.0 that we can all work with. And one of the things

21 whenever I was reviewing it the past couple nights,

22 once I came upon that part the superintendent has

23 broad authority, well, I started counting the numbers 24 of times I seen that, you know, the superintendent

25 referred to. Before it was all said and done I seen

the permitting process, the length of those things. 2

And there's a lot of it goes into that and standing

here tonight I can't honestly talk to my shareholders

do those certain things to alleviate the difficulty of

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4 and say that I've been able to do a lot of that

5 because of the regulations and the difficulties and

6 complications that there are already in place and with

this new proposed document have been maximized it

seems to me. And it's something that I want to move

9 forward and I want to be able to work with the Bureau 10

of Indian Affairs, I want to work with the producers, 11 I want to work with my council. As Mr. Waller said

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earlier, this is a good council with a lot of new 13

people on the council. And people put their faith and

trust in us to do -- take care of them because a lot 15

people are dependent upon this, that's their sole 16

source of income and their livelihood depends on this.

17 And whenever I see these slides flying by and voices

18 just talking very fast, you know, and trying to digest

19 this. And like Cheshewalla spoke about, we went from

20 us a phone book and now it's the Bartlesville phone

21 book. And it's something that you have to be almost

22 like Mr. -- an attorney to interpret a lot of these

23 things and a lot of us can't.

> So, again, we're here this evening to ask you to please take into consideration our input as the

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- minerals council, especially us new ones. Everett and 2 them that have been here four and five terms, they have been down this road before. This is new ground 4 for me and I went out and I talked my people and they
- put me in a seat, they trusted me, they had faith in me to go make the processes better and I assured them that I would do my best. And the Osage have a word 8 it's Basaw, it's called doing your best and they
- expect me to do that and I expect that from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. 11

Thank you.

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MS. GENOVA: Okay, we have Lee Levinson. And is Talee Red Corn here? You were signed up. Do you want to speak? No?

MR. RED CORN: I can't hear you.

MS. GENOVA: You were signed up. Do you want to

MR. RED CORN: Sure.

MS. GENOVA: Okay. You're up next.

MR. LEVINSON: Hi. I'm Lee Levinson and this is McLemore sitting next to me there. We're the ones that represented the Osage producers in the last

23 federal case where basically these same rules were 24 proposed except this time you just made it more

25 complicated. Page 52

don't work. The first slide you put up, one thing was 2

false in it. You made the comment, and I know you put

3 it up there, you said technology has improved the last 4 49 years and it has, except, and I've got a lot of

producers here, I recognize some of them, those one or

two barrel wells when I was a kid my dad had, we

produced them the same way. You get out there with

8 your boots in the mud and you try to keep them going.

It used to be how much production do you have, today

10 it's how much does it cost to operate. And I want 11

everybody to know that Mr. McLemore and I, I really do 12 care about small producers. I grew up with in this

13 business. I call it the Beverly Hillbillies syndrome 14

in Washington. They think you shoot and the bubbling 15 crude comes out. As you know if you work in it, this 16

is a tough business. We've got hardworking people

Let me tell you this about Osage County. I work a lot with the Corporation Commission. Osage County has some of the best environmental controls, maybe has the best in the State of Oklahoma. And everybody needs to know that there's no longer more pollution in this county. If it is it's taken care

24 of. And I just want everybody to know that the best 25 part about today, appreciate your chief who is going

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The judge -- one of the highlights of that case, I have to tell you, we had a full courtroom and a great attorney they had from the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington came and said, well, Judge, this doesn't affect these people. And the judge said, stop, please, turn around, I think it does.

And first I want to say this, I've known your chief a long time. A good man. What he said today is probably the most important thing, he's going to stand behind everybody here and all the producers. He's not going to turn. He also knows that I was involved, believe it or not, with the tobacco awards. I represented I think it was 39 tribes and I represented and we fought the State of Oklahoma, but we have certain chiefs, they didn't even come forward, but you got a good man there and you ought to appreciate what he's done and what he said.

He also said earlier that the small producers can't live with these rules. Well, it's not that to me if these rules pass, it's an extinction event. You might as well take and put a field there and put the keys in it. I can also say without -- besides being an attorney, I operate at least a hundred wells. I've produced wells since I've been a kid. Drilled my first well when I was 19 years old and these rules

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to stand behind you.

MS. GENOVA: Okay, Talee Red Corn and then I have Mike Mackey on deck.

MR. RED CORN: Hi, everybody.

(Speaking Osage.)

We think it's good that American people, representatives of the president of the United States would come to our reservation and want to talk with us.

(Speaking Osage.)

And they said good words, our Chief, our Assistant Chief sitting there. We're happy today that you're here but we're concerned.

(Speaking Osage.)

The laws and things that you write on paper, that's going to hurt our Osages, our headright holders because the production goes down. When production goes down I cannot give good money to my headright holders. I get calls all the time, I can't make my bills, how much longer do I have to wait, it's 20, 30 days until I get my next check and how much is it going to be because that's all I have to pay my bills. I might have to sell my home. These are prestigious Osages they're making a movie about nowadays I'm hearing.

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I just want to say that when I started this mineral council we had 82 leases approved in one month. You multiply that times 12, that's 984. Now, Mr. Streater, BIA, can I ask ya'll how many are approved? That's almost a thousand in one year. How many do we have approved now in Osage? And it hits hard our paycheck, our royalties.

(Speaking Osage.)

That's all I have to say. Thank you all. MS. GENOVA: Mike Mackey. And Justin DeLong is on

MR. MACKEY: I can't talk to peoples' backs. I'll make this two minutes as fast as I can. I thought about a lot of the things I can say. And Everett, I appreciate you. I can't tell you how much I appreciate what you said, Chief.

I want to tell you a quick story as fast as I can. One hundred seventeen years ago there was a magnificent ship built, what's called the Osage Mineral Estate. And appointed the captain was the BIA. Their responsibility was for the safety, the administration and the well-being of that ship. The deckhands, the crew was a bunch of wildcatters, drillers, those kind of guys, but it wasn't just them, it was the restaurateurs, the waitresses, the fuel

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buck the water current and we all looked out and there were icebergs everywhere. And a few weeks ago the captain got a new order and that order was whatever it takes, deliver this ship back to port immediately, straightaway, don't go this way, don't go that way, we want you here immediately because this ship has to undergo some repairs. And so the captain with the impossible task that he has now comes to the crew and has a meeting on February 8th and says, on or about March 17th if you don't get this ship sailing as fast as we can to port in a straight line, I'm going to make ya'll get out and push. His method is all stick and no care and even though the crew wants the same thing that the captain wants and that is to get this ship back to port, his methods are not attainable, they're impossible and the way he wants to go will take this ship to the bottom of the ocean. Lee referenced this. He knows it and every one of you know it. Now as many great people as there are in this county and on this crew of this vessel, I know of none of you that can walk on water and that's would be required for us to get out and push.

The bottom line is we need more oil and there's only one way to get it. I would suggest a couple solutions. One, there are new technologies

which you guys are fond of bringing up for casing 2 repair and casing patch. There are new bottom hole 3 pump technologies that we could implement that are 4 here in the county today that will increase production 5 by 10 to 15 percent, will solve the problem of methane 6 abatement. Yeah, I know. I got nothing but time. And solving the problem of methane abatement while reducing operator costs by on average 40 percent. g Those are here today. In addition, with new IOT 10 sensor technologies and low bandwidth emissions from 11

5G cellular technology, we can deliver to the ONRR

12 people realtime data at next to zero cost for 13 reporting and that will allow us to not turn every

14 operator in this county into a felon. These things 15 are achievable. All we have to do is avoid the 16 icebergs and we can do it. As the crew, we're on 17 board with you, we want to take this baby home because 18

there's a lot of you out here that have been on this vessel for a long time.

And it used to be that the crew would stay on board for decades, for entire careers and then one day that ship would pull up to port and they would offload and a new crew would come on. And as that new crew came on there was excitement about what was getting ready to happen to the voyage, the experience. I've

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stations. Everybody was there to support this. And the people that rode ownership, the guests, came from all over the world to ride the most magnificent ship that ever sailed the ocean and it was wonderful for years and years, decades. This ship was the talk of the world. It was a well oiled machine. A few years ago something happened. The ship began to wander and as it did a lot of the people that were on board who were guests that were taking this ride, they all got out and took the boat, the dingies, and they left the 11 ship without any lifeboats. And what happened after 12 that was the crew began to get funny kind of commands 13 from the bridge and the captain started giving orders 14 that we had never heard and as a result the captain 15 thought that we were an unruly crew, but we weren't. 16 We wanted the same thing that the captain wanted. The 17 captain had been given an impossible task and that was 18 to keep the ship in order, to keep its magnificence 19 but at the same time don't go and give any specific 20 direction. We're not going to stop at this port or 21 that port, we're just going to keep wandering. So 22 they continued to wander and then about three years

ago there was nobody on the bridge and the ship went

adrift. And one day we all woke up and we were in the

icy seas of the north, there wasn't enough power to

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only been here for 40 years in the county and I've

loved every minute of it. I've appreciated where this

vessel has taken me. I would appreciate the

opportunities that this vessel has afforded me. But

there are others that want those same opportunities

and if this boat is laying at the bottom an ocean

somewhere, they're not going to get those 8

opportunities. You owe it to the people out here who

have been around for a while not to throw them 10 overboard. Thank you.

> MS. GENOVA: Justin DeLong, you're up. On deck is Nona Roach.

MR. DeLONG: Council, you're already going to get me off topic. He brought up our well records, not being able to access those and I can't help but just bring it up because I wouldn't be standing here if it wasn't for that and a man that actually passed away last Sunday actually. He worked for my Uncle Phillip all his life, was a geologist, log analyst, prospector, he actually worked all over the world. A wonderfully neat man. I worked 15 years with him drilling wells up here. I really would not be here if it wasn't for him. So Mr. Sutton, basically retired and spent probably two days a week at the Osage

all of his life. And so he has -- it might take him two or three days to get it done and he can do the Osage County reports in a couple of hours. So very

scary to think we're going to have to deal with this, 5 the dual accounting. I don't think it will be done by 6 probably anybody in this room.

I guess my time is up. But I hope everybody that has to do with these CFRs and putting them together understand that they're talking about putting people out of business.

MS. GENOVA: We have Nona Roach followed by Michael Wachtura.

MS. ROACH: I'm Nona Roach and I'm really glad to follow you, Justin, because Stan and I have discussed how horrific the ONRR system is and what a nightmare it is to try to navigate through. I've had -- I do probably over a hundred BIA reports a month and like Stan, I can do them in a couple days. The ONRR part of it, I had three different leases for guys that were outside of Osage County, it was a nightmare from beginning to end. It's horrific to navigate in. One of the things you figure out is I think I looked up last night and there's four days of training to teach you how to get in it and navigate it. Now, look around you. These guys don't do computers. They pay

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prospects took over. I'd say a third of our wells we drilled, a third of our wells we operate, we drilled a

pouring through all the records and built a lot of

third were purchased and a third were abandoned, which

means they were sitting there for years not doing

anything and they're producing. And that all happened

because they weren't forced but a man was able to go

build prospects by looking at records that haven't

been there close to a hundred years. Anyway, that can

happen. There's no more to me, you know. And it's

sad. The destruction of the -- sorry, I'm not

11 prepared, I was welding all day. So as many of these 12

people back here as you can see, they work for a

13 living, work very hard and what's proposed here is

14 going to put a lot of people out of business, you

15 know, I firmly believe that. So, I worked for my dad,

16 I graduated from college and went to work for my dad,

17 third generation producing in Osage County. He worked 18

for big companies, produced lots of gas, has done oil 19

and gas accounting all of his life, not accounting but

20 paying of -- overseeing and paying of royalties, all

21 that. He had one lease that he reports on and every

22 month I hear, I get a phonecall and I dread it because

23 I know he doesn't like it, it takes two or three days

24 to get done. Yes, he's turning 70 in a couple months

25 so he's not the best online, but still he's done this

me to do that. But those three guys that I did, I told them they couldn't pay me enough money anymore to do it because it was so time consuming. And I want you to explain to us how much burden in dollars it's going to be for these people to have to, A, go get a

computer, which they don't have.

The thing about it also is you couldn't get on it before 7:00 a.m. in the morning, you couldn't get on it after 7:00 p.m. at night, you could not get an audit on weekends or holidays. Do you know when these type up their reports? Sunday afternoons or whenever Stan calls. I'm just sick of all of it. It's ridiculous. They cannot do this. This is a burden that nobody should have to bear in Osage County. We've lived all these months and years with the

16 economic impact of all of this regulatory insecurity 17 that we've had. And I think I was talking to Mitch a

18 while ago, he said I think 11 years ago we started

19 this and we still haven't got it resolved. And Osage

20 County hasn't fell off the face of the earth, we're 21

still making oil, but I promise you I have guys call 22 me that want to buy leases and they're all excited

23 until they go, where is it, and I say, Osage County, 24 nope, not doing it. So, you need to realize the

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impact you're making on all these people and their

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livelihoods because they're mom and pops and they 2 don't even know how to turn a computer on.

MS. GENOVA: Mike Wachtura. And Mel Carter. Is Michael here somewhere? Oh, you said no. Sorry. Nevermind. So we'll go right to Mel Carter. I think

it's Carter.

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MS. CARTER: I'm Melinda Carter. I'm president of the OPA. I'm a third generation oil producer. And my question is, why would these be reintroduced after they've been struck down in 2015 by Judge Frizzell? What positive does this offer this county or this mineral estate? This is nothing more than a generational chalk outline. I sot in my office every day having people call me and ask me how to turn in their reports they already have, paper versions. I sit one day of every quarter turning in EPA reports for all the small producers who, by the way, average age is over 60. They no longer own -- they don't own computers, they are not savvy. What positive does this offer us? Why was the OMC not consulted? Was that not part of the stipulation in 2015? Can you not give me a positive answer that this does anything for the mineral estate except for give us a death by a

assuming I can still do that.

I just want to echo some of the things that have been said. I don't have a grand story to tell which I think is great. I respect the Chief what he said and Mr. Waller. I want to share at some length of what he expressed. I came down here for the first time in the '70s with my dad, sat in a Winnebago with a microscope and a black light and watched samples on my first well in Osage County and been here ever since. I graduated from college, came down here and met my wife and have been part of the oil and gas business in Osage County ever since. In the last 12 to 15 years we've probably invested more than a hundred million dollars drilling and developing Osage County. And I really have to say that in the last -since the issue with NEPA and some of the new requirements surrounding permits related to drilling, it's been really hard for us. We tried to rise to the occasion, we tried to deal with what needs to be done, we try to work with the environmental experts that we need to work with to get DAs done.

It's been 30 seconds already? MS. GENOVA: That's all right. You're last. MR. KNAPPE: Anyway, I just want to reiterate a couple things that have been said. The first is, you

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Osage County as a positive? I hope not. I have nieces and nephews. I hope to have children one day.

thousand paper cuts? This is nothing but a chalk

outline. Am I the last generation that's going to see

What is this all for them? Nothing. So until

somebody can tell me a positive thing from this, I may see you in court. And anybody who is not a member of

the OPA come see me. I have membership. I will take

you under my wing and I will take you to that

courthouse myself. I have no fear because I have

nothing left to lose. Am I going to lose my

10 generational wealth? Am I going to lose my

11 generational job? Am I going to lose everything 12

because somebody thinks that I need to get up with the

13 ages in a place that is not with the ages. We produce

14 stripper and marginal wells at best. What does this

do for us? Is there an answer? Can anybody give me one? Because I don't think you can.

MS. GENOVA: Next is Robert Knappe for your comments.

MR. KNAPPE: Well, so much has already been said I think that's appropriate. I don't have a prepared statement. I thought I would try to come with a prepared statement but when I started going through highlighting 71 pages and three columns of proposed

regulations, I realized that I probably just need to 25 make my written comments and send them in and I'm Page 65

1 know, the regulations I don't think are appropriate 2 given the average well in Osage County. That's

already been said. But if you take capture point out

and you look at the production in the county, the

5 average well probably divided over the rest of the

wells is probably .6 or .7 barrels a day on average.

When we were doing really good I think it was about

1.4 or 1.6-barrel average. I don't know if everybody 9

else knows. It's not uncommon for a well to make a 10

thousand dollars a month. So, as somebody else said, 11

it's not much oil you make, it's what's your cost of 12 operation. So, you know, we have rising labor costs,

13 we have rising material costs, some days it's double,

14 triple, tubing is hard to find. We're fighting all 15

these other problems with the increased cost and the 16 cost of compliance with regulations is not helping

that at all. And I think I would wonder how whoever

18 did the study came up with 18 to \$26,000 for

19 compliance when they start reading through everything

20 that has to be done to comply with the ONRR reporting,

21 with the valve sealing and records and keeping logs

22 and I have a lot of questions about the payment of the

23 royalties. As a representative of, I didn't say who,

24 Warrior Exploration and Production, but I'm also a

25 representative of Performance Energy, Performance

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- Operating and Osage Hills Pipeline. We have over 650 2 miles of pipeline right now in Osage County because
- other companies were going to walk away from it and we
- 4 wanted to still be able to sell our gas. And it's a
- hard, hard business. We don't make money operating a
- gas well. We hope to make a little money selling the
- gas that we produce from the wells that we pump. And
- I think when we start talking about operators having
- to pay royalties on gas when they have to give the
- 10 purchaser at least some -- we have eight big
- 11 compressors to move, you know, a couple million feet
- 12 of gas all over the county and those compressors burn
- 13 oil and gas. That pipeline is almost a hundred years
- 14 old. It leaks a little gas. We have seven, eight
- 15 guys out all the time patching up leaks. And like I
- 16 said, we don't make any money doing that. So now when
 - you -- I haven't looked at the standards, I don't
- 18 know, when I got to all the things that are going to
- 19 be incorporated by reference to all the API standards,
- 20 all the measurement standards, I still have to
- 21 understand all this. We have old meter tubes out in
- 22 Osage County. Some of them are pretty old and my
- 23 guess is that, yeah, if they had, you know, a couple
- 24 million feet of gas going through them, there would
- 25 probably be a little discrepancy involved. But, you

Thank you.

MS. GENOVA: That was the last of our commenters that we had, so if anyone or someone who has already spoken who has more to say, we will leave the mic open. We will be here until 9:00 o'clock or a few minutes after if you want to wait in line.

Sure, go ahead. Please say your name.

MR. REVARD: Again, thank you.

Again, my name is Paul Revard, one of the Osage Mineral Council members serving on the fifth council. One thing that I failed to mention earlier that I'd like to point out was that this mineral council has in recent months and over the last year have reached out and had support from the Oklahoma congressional delegation on our behalf. They reached out to the BIA and had requested that you all work with the mineral council in developing these regulations. And instead of doing that you all have published these proposed rules on January the 13th without honoring their request, our request to have you all work with us through this Oklahoma congressional delegation.

I also wanted to remind you how unique Osage County is. It's been referred to, Ms. Carter just mentioned how minimal our production is, these are

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know, on an average of 15,000 cubic feet a day per delivery point, I think a one percent, you know, variance on 15,000 is not going to be significant

4 compared to the cost to try to comply with inspections

and changing meter tubes and doing some of those things that might be required for a well that sells

\$500 worth of gas every month.

So those are some of the things that I would recommend that the BIA take into consideration regarding some of these rules, some of the things that are being appropriated by reference and asking producers to pay royalty on gas for the money they are going to receive because the purchaser has to take a little of that gas to pay for compression, for transport and that kind of thing.

I think that's the main thing I wanted to say and comment on. I just appreciate everything that everybody else said and I think that the bottom line for me is the cost, the cost is -- I think as Lee said, it's an event that will be the death of a lot of operators. It's already hard to track capital in Osage County as has been said because of the uncertainty and ability to get to know what the cost is going to be at the end of the day. We have to operate here.

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stripper wells. The average well in Osage County is

less than a barrel a day. There's 14,000 active

3 wells, but out of those 14,000 active wells 3,200 of

those wells are injection wells. So we're talking

about 11,000 oil and gas producing wells most of which

are oil but some are gas and some are a combination of

oil and gas, but those 11,000 wells produce about

11,000 barrels of oil. And we have two producers in

9 this room, I won't name names right now, but two of

10 the producers in this room produce half of that 11,000

11 barrels from just two producers. The rest of that is 12

divided by the other two or 300 operators that we 13

have. We have operators that have maybe just seven 14

barrels a day. We have some that may have 14 barrels 15

a day. But we've got producers that produce a quarter

16 barrel a day per well, maybe this well does a quarter

17 barrel, this one does one and a quarter barrels.

18 That's the kind of production we have. And these

19 rules that you've accumulated and it feels like a lot

20 of this is copy and pasted from other governing bodies

21 like maybe the BLM, for instance, where you may have

22 one set of rules that might work good and appropriate

23 for say the Bakken up north or maybe the Permian Basin

24 in west Texas. They have a different environment.

25 They have wells that are not stripper wells. They

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- have wells that come in at larger production volumes.
- 2 That changes the economics. Some of the economics
- like this reporting, production reporting, it's one
- thing for a producer like the two I just mentioned
- that produces half of our oil to be able to have
- people on staff to do that kind of work, but it's like
- Mr. DeLong said earlier about his father, he's a third
- 8 generation, these people are doing their production
- reports maybe on a Saturday morning if they are not
- 10 out in the field. Maybe they do it when they're
- 11 coming in from the field and they're doing it when

12 they can as they can best they can. 13

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So, it's the point I'm trying to make is that what works in one area does not -- it just doesn't conform and work. The Chief said and so did Chairman

16 Waller that we have a unique mineral estate. It's

17 very unique in lots and lots of ways. The royalty

ownership is unique, the volume of our production is unique. We've been developed for 117 or so years and

20 we're depleted. There is some new opportunities in

21 technology, most of like Mr. Mackey said, most of this

22 technology is not available to this average Osage

23 County producer, the mom and pops like somebody made

24 reference to. The mom and pops, they don't have this 25

type of technology. There's just trying to keep a

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- a grandson or daughter help me with it occasionally.
- But the thing is the next generation like my children
- don't want anything to do with it. And she's telling
- 4 you all that she's in there, she said she's a third
- generation. When she has -- she just doesn't see, she

can't foresee her children picking up their family production and carrying it on with this.

So, there was another point I wanted to make if I can remember. Well, that's all for now, but I do appreciate it.

MS. GENOVA: Is there anyone else out there wants to speak or speak again?

We'll take a five minute break and see if there's more comments. We have one half hour left. I was trying to get the time. So we'll take a five minute break and we'll come back, come back for the final comments.

(A recess was here had 8:28 to 9:00.)

MR. MOUTON: The meeting is adjourned. Thank you for your attendance.

(End of Public Meeting at 9:00 p.m.)

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barrel a day going like, you know, they've been doing for a couple of generations.

And Ms. Carter also said something about her generation. When Councilman Red Corn and some others talk about elders I was like, wait a minute, I think I feel I am one of the elders too. I don't want to be

- but here I am. I get a special parking place but I'm too embarrassed to put it on my windshield because in
- my heart, I'm not elderly at heart. But yeah, the 10
 - point is we from a headright perspective Councilman
- Red Corn, this is very serious. These people that 12 he's talking about, the constituents, the headright
- 13 owners, they make a decision of do I buy -- which has
- 14 skyrocketed these days, or do I buy my medicine. He 15 hears these people, these people talk to us and they
 - look to us for help and these people, a lot of our
- 17 headright owners are dependent upon this revenue. And
- 18 when you hear operators like Ms. Carter represents 19
- with their producers association, she's talking about 20 generational stuff. We've been talking about third
- 21 generations. And I am a third generation myself, but 22 my children, they don't want any part of this. And
- 23 the same way with a lot of these people in this room, 24 she mentioned that most of them are 60 years or older.
 - Now, I did have a computer but I have to have

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)) SS:

COUNTY OF OKLAHOMA)

I, David Buck, Certified Shorthand Reporter within and for the State of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that the PUBLIC MEETING was taken in shorthand and thereafter transcribed; that the same was taken on February 8th, 2023, in Skiatook, Oklahoma; that I am not an attorney for nor a relative of any said parties, or otherwise interested in said action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal this 16th day of February, 2023.

David Buck, CSR #1585

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