

be allocated as herein provided to each unitized tract in the participating area so established, and shall govern the allocation of production from and after the date the participating area becomes effective. A separate participating area shall be established in like manner for each separate pool or deposit of unitized substances or for any group thereof produced as a single pool or zone, and any two or more participating areas so established may be combined into one with the consent of the owners of all working interests in the lands within the participating areas so to be combined, on approval of the Director. The participating area or areas so established shall be revised from time to time, subject to like approval, whenever such action appears proper as a result of further drilling operations or otherwise, to include additional land then regarded as reasonably proved to be productive in paying quantities, or to exclude land then regarded as reasonably proved not to be productive and the percentage of allocation shall also be revised accordingly. The effective date of any revisions shall be the first of the month in which is obtained the knowledge or information on which such revision is predicated, unless a more appropriate effective date is specified in the schedule. No land shall be excluded from a participating area on account of depletion of the unitized substances.

It is the intent of this section that a participating area shall represent the area known or reasonably estimated to be productive in paying quantities; but, regardless of any revision of the participating area, nothing herein contained shall be construed as requiring any retroactive adjustment for production obtained prior to the effective date of the revision of the participating area.

In the absence of agreement at any time between the Unit Operator and the Director as to the proper definition or redefinition of a participating area, or until a participating area has, or areas have, been established as provided herein, the portion of all payments affected thereby may be impounded in a manner mutually acceptable to the owners of working interests, except royalties due the United States, which shall be determined by the