



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

New Orleans Office
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

In Reply Refer To: Bond No. SBP150953_002

April 2, 2025

CNOOC Petroleum Offshore U.S.A. Inc.
9805 Katy Freeway, Suite 675
Houston, TX 77024
Attn: Ariel D. Schneider

Dear Ms. Schneider:

Your letter dated March 28, 2025, submitting replacement Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Mineral Lessee's or Operator's Bond No. SBP150953_002, in the amount of \$3,000,000, was received by our office on March 31, 2025. This bond, conditioned to cover the principal's leasehold interest held now or hereafter in the Gulf of America, was executed on March 28, 2025, with CNOOC Petroleum Offshore U.S.A. Inc. as principal and Pennsylvania Insurance Company as surety.

This bond replaces Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Mineral Lessee's or Operator's Bond No. 104108106, in the amount of \$3,000,000. This bond, conditioned to cover principal's leasehold interest held now or hereafter in the Gulf of Mexico, was executed on July 25, 2003, with Nexen Petroleum Offshore U.S.A. Inc. as principal, and Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America as surety.

Attached to and forming a part of Bond No. 104108106, is Name Change Bond Rider, executed on March 12, 2019, which changes the name of the principal from Nexen Petroleum Offshore U.S.A. Inc. to CNOOC Petroleum Offshore U.S.A. Inc. The rider is effective January 1, 2019.

The replacement bond, Bond No. SBP150953_002, conforms to the requirements of the leasing and operating regulations for submerged lands of the Outer Continental Shelf and is considered to be effective March 28, 2025, the date it was executed. The period of liability of Bond No. 104108106 is considered to have terminated and the bond is considered cancelled without residual liability on the same date.

Should you need further assistance, please contact Kathleen Lee at (504) 736-5774 or boemgulffinancialassurance@boem.gov.

Sincerely,

**BRIDGETTE
DUPLANTIS**

Digitally signed by
BRIDGETTE DUPLANTIS
Date: 2025.04.02 11:37:53
-05'00'

Bridgette Duplantis, Section Supervisor
Leasing and Financial Responsibility Section
Leasing and Plans

cc: Ariel D. Schneider (Ariel.Schneider@ineos.com)
John Hohlt (john.hohlt@cacgroup.com)
Pierce Pontikes (nppontikes@auw.com)

RECEIVED

March 31, 2025

*Leasing & Financial
Responsibility Section*

9805 Katy Freeway, Suite 675
Houston, TX 77024
Ariel D. Schneider
Main (469) 500-8268

March 28, 2025

Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management
Gulf of Mexico OCS Office
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394
Leasing and Financial Responsibility – Mail Stop GM 266A

RE: Replacement Bond Submission

Included in this delivery you will find a replacement bond for Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America Bond No. 104108106. Pennsylvania Insurance Company Bond No. SBP150953_002 replaces and supersedes Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America Bond No. 104108106 effective March 28, 2025.

Replaced bond details:

Bond Type: Areawide– Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Mineral Lessee's or Operator's Bond (BOEM-2028 form)

Bond Number: 104108106

Area/property covered: Gulf of Mexico

Penalty Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Principal:
CNOOC Petroleum Offshore U.S.A. Inc.
9805 Katy Freeway, Suite 675
Houston, TX 77024

Surety:
Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America
One Tower Square
Hartford, CT 06183

Replacement bond details:

Bond Type: Areawide– Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Mineral Lessee's or Operator's Bond (BOEM-2028 form)

Bond Number: SBP150953_002

Area/property covered: Gulf of Mexico

Penalty Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Principal:
CNOOC Petroleum Offshore U.S.A. Inc.
9805 Katy Freeway, Suite 675
Houston, TX 77024

Surety:
Pennsylvania Insurance Company
P.O. Box 3646
Omaha, NE 68103-0646

Point of contact during review: Ariel D. Schneider
Principal contact: (469) 500-8268; Ariel.Schneider@cnoccltdusa.com
Broker contact: John Hohlt – john.hohlt@cacgroup.com
Surety contact: Pierce Pontikes - nppontikes@auw.com

Please feel free to contact us should any questions arise or if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Ariel D. Schneider

Enclosure: Bond SBP150953_002

CC: Pennsylvania Insurance Company
P.O. Box 3646
Omaha, NE 68103-0646

Cover Page
**OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF (OCS)
MINERAL LESSEE'S OR OPERATOR'S BOND**
Form BOEM-2028

This form dated **July 2024** supersedes all previous versions of form
BOEM-2028

All Bond Forms must be submitted with a transmittal letter to the appropriate BOEM office:

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Gulf of America OCS Office
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.
New Orleans LA 70123-2394
Leasing and Financial Responsibility - Mail Stop GM266A

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Alaska OCS Office
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage AK 99503-5820
Alaska Leasing Section

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Pacific OCS Office
760 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 102
Camarillo CA 93010
Lease Management

RECEIVED
March 31, 2025
*Leasing & Financial
Responsibility Section*

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) Statement: The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) requires us to inform you that BOEM collects this information to hold the surety liable for the obligations and liability of the Principal (lessee or operator). Responses are mandatory. No proprietary information is collected. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form should be directed to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 45600 Woodland Road, Sterling, VA 20166.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Bond No. SBP150953_002

Lease No. Gulf of America

Bond Type Area Wide Lease Bond

Amount \$ 3,000,000.00

OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF (OCS) MINERAL LESSEE'S OR OPERATOR'S BOND

The **Surety** is the entity Guaranteeing Performance.

Name of Surety: Pennsylvania Insurance Company

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3646

Omaha, NE 68103 - 0646

If a Corporation, Incorporated in the State of: New Mexico

; County or Parish of: Douglas County

☒ Check here if Surety is certified by U.S. Treasury as an acceptable surety on Federal Bonds and listed in the current U.S. Treasury Circular No. 570.

The **Principal** is the Lessee or Designated Operator for Whom the Bond is Issued.

Name of Principal: CNOOC Petroleum Offshore U.S.A. Inc.

Mailing Address: 9805 Katy Freeway, Suite 675

Houston, TX 77024

Schedule A, the region or leases covered by this bond, is composed of: (Check one and add legal description)

☒ The following region: Gulf of America

☐ The following lease(s):

☐ Check here if additional lease information is continued on attached sheet.

In addition to the Obligations of the Principal during the period of liability of this bond, the Surety also accepts the following Obligations: (Check one)

☐ No Obligations other than the Obligations of the Principal during the period of liability of this bond.

☒ All Obligations of all previous Sureties or guarantors even if the Obligations are not Obligations of the Principal during the period of liability of this bond.

☐ All Obligations of all previous Sureties or guarantors even if the Obligations are not Obligations of the Principal during the period of liability of this bond with the following exceptions or limitations (use an attached rider).

Definitions

For the purposes of this document:

A **Principal** includes an entity holding an interest in the oil & gas lease in one or more of the following ways: (1) as an approved record title owner of all or a portion of the lease, (2) as an approved operating rights owner of all or a portion of the lease, or (3) as a designated operator or designated agent in all or a portion of the lease.

A **Lessee** includes an approved record title owner of all or a portion of the lease or an approved operating rights owner of all or a portion of the lease.

An **Obligation** includes any obligation arising from any regulations of the Department of the Interior or any Instrument issued, maintained, or approved under the OCS Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*).

An **Instrument** includes individually or collectively any lease, operating agreement, designation of operator or agent, storage agreement, compensatory royalty agreement, transfer of operating rights, permit, license, or easement, whereunder the Principal has the right, privilege, or license to conduct operations on the OCS.

A **Person** includes an individual, a public or private entity, a State, a political subdivision of a State, any association of individuals, corporations, States, or subdivisions of States, or a government agency.

By signing below, the Principal verifies that the information above is correct and agrees to the following:

Unless as otherwise indicated on Schedule A, the Principal will fulfill all Obligations for the entire leasehold and to the same extent as though the Principal were the sole lessee for all leases in Schedule A or for all leases for which the Principal has an interest within a region designated in Schedule A.

By signing below, the Surety verifies that the information above is correct and agrees to the following:

1. The Surety does hereby absolutely and unconditionally bind itself to the United States of America acting through and by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), or such other official designated by the Secretary of the Interior for this purpose, for the performance of all present and future Obligations.
2. The Surety will be responsible for all Obligations of the Principal in existence at the time this document becomes effective and all Obligations that accrue after that date and until all Obligations are met or until the Regional Director terminates the period of liability of this bond.
3. If the Regional Director terminates the period of liability of this bond, the Surety will remain responsible for Obligations that accrued during the period of liability until the Regional Director issues a written cancellation of the bond in favor of the Surety.
4. If this bond is cancelled, the Regional Director may reinstate this bond as if no cancellation had occurred if any payment of any obligations of the Principal(s) is rescinded or must be restored pursuant to any insolvency, bankruptcy, reorganization, or receivership, or should the representation of the Principal that it has paid its financial Obligations or performed the other

Obligations of the lease in accordance with BOEM specifications be materially false and BOEM relied upon such representation in canceling the instrument.

5. The Surety waives any right of notice of this bond taking effect and agrees that this bond will take effect upon delivery to BOEM.
6. The Surety's Obligations will remain in full force and effect, even if:
 - (a) Any person assigns all or part of any interest in an Instrument covered by this document.
 - (b) Any person modifies an Instrument or Obligation under an Instrument in any manner including modifications that result from a commitment to a unit, cooperative, communitization, or storage agreement; suspension of operations or production; suspension or changes in rental, minimum royalty, or royalties; modification of regulations or interpretations of regulations; creation or modification of compensatory royalty agreements or payments; or creation of any mortgage, pledge, or other grant of security interest in the Instruments.
 - (c) Any person, event, or condition terminates any Instrument covered by this bond, whether the termination is by operation of law or otherwise.
 - (d) BOEM takes or fails to take any action in enforcing, as against any party to the Instrument, the payment of rentals or royalties or the performance of any other covenant, condition or agreement of the lease, or giving notice of or making demand with respect to such nonperformance.
 - (e) The Surety suffers any loss by reason of any law limiting, qualifying, or discharging the Principal's Obligation.
7. The Surety agrees to be bound under this bond as to the interests in any Instrument retained by the Principal when BOEM approves the transfer of any or all of the Instruments or interests in the Instruments.
8. In the event of any default under a lease, the Surety must provide payment of all of the cost of the Obligations of the Principal upon demand by BOEM.
9. If BOEM decides to commence suit to enforce its rights, it may commence and prosecute any claim, suit, action, or other proceeding against the Principal and Surety, or either of them, whether or not BOEM joins the lessees or any other party.
10. In the event there is more than one Surety for the Principal's performance of the Obligations, as to any Instrument, the Surety's Obligation and liability under this bond is on a "solidary" or "joint and several" basis along with other guarantors or sureties.
11. The Surety agrees to give prompt notice to BOEM and the Principal of any action filed alleging the insolvency or bankruptcy of the Surety or the Principal, or alleging any violation that would result in suspension or revocation of the Surety's charter or license to do business.
12. The Surety's Obligation and liabilities under this Bond are binding upon the Surety's successors and assigns. Nothing in this document permits assignment of the Surety's Obligation without the written consent of BOEM.
13. The Surety hereby waives any defenses to liability on this bond based on an unauthorized Principal signature.

Pennsylvania Insurance Company

Name of Surety

Signature of Person Executing for Surety

John Hohlt, Attorney-in-Fact

Name and Title (typed or printed)

P.O. Box 3646

Business Address

Omaha, NE 68103 - 0646

Business Address

CNOOC Petroleum Offshore U.S.A. Inc.

Name of Principal

Signature of Person Executing for Principal

Ariel D. Schneider, Vice President, Finance, Planning and Production

Name and Title (typed or printed)

9805 Katy Freeway, Suite 675

Business Address

Houston, TX 77024

Business Address

Signed on this 28th day of March, 2025, in the State of Texas, in the presence of:

Signature of Witness

Eriel Yeldell

Name (typed or printed)

2121 Sage Road, Suite 145

Address

Houston, TX 77056

Address

Signature of Witness

Senia Hernandez

Name (typed or printed)

2121 Sage Road, Suite 145

Address

Houston, TX 77056

Address

Note: The person executing for the Surety must attach a corporate resolution and power of attorney stating his or her authority to undertake this Obligation, pursuant to the acts of the corporate board of directors and the laws of the State of incorporation. The corporation executing this bond as Surety and the Principal, if a corporation, must affix their corporate seals.

BOEM-2028 (July 2024)

Previous Editions are Obsolete.

PAGE 3 OF 3

POWER OF ATTORNEY NO. CACHOU01_0323

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That the California Insurance Company, duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of California and having its principal office in the County of San Mateo, California, and Continental Indemnity Company, Illinois Insurance Company and Pennsylvania Insurance Company, corporations duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Mexico and having their principal office in the County of Santa Fe, New Mexico does hereby nominate, constitute and appoint:

John Hohlt, Senia Hernandez, Candice Hild, Nadia Ortega

Its true and lawful agent and attorney-in-fact, to make, execute, seal and deliver for and on its behalf as surety, and its act and deed any and all bonds, contracts, agreements of indemnity and other undertakings in suretyship (NOT INCLUDING bonds without a fixed penalty or financial guarantee) provided, however, that the penal sum of any one such instrument executed hereunder shall not exceed the sum of:

"Unlimited"

This Power of Attorney is granted and is signed and sealed under and by the authority of the following Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of **California Insurance Company, Continental Indemnity Company, Illinois Insurance Company and Pennsylvania Insurance Company.**

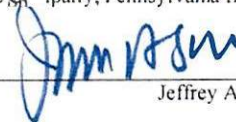
"RESOLVED, That the President, Senior Vice President, Vice President, Assisted Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and each of them hereby is authorized to execute powers of attorney, and such authority can be executed by use of facsimile signature, which may be attested or acknowledged by any officer or attorney of the Company, qualifying the attorney or attorneys named in given power of attorney, to execute in behalf of, and acknowledge as the act and deed of the **California Insurance Company, Continental Indemnity Company, Illinois Insurance Company and Pennsylvania Insurance Company**, all bond undertakings and contracts of suretyship, and to affix the corporate seal thereto."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, **California Insurance Company, Continental Indemnity Company, Illinois Insurance Company and Pennsylvania Insurance Company**, has caused its official seal to be hereunto affixed and these presents to be signed by its duly authorized

officer the 16th day of August 2023.

California Insurance Company, Continental Indemnity Company,
Illinois Insurance Company, Pennsylvania Insurance Company

By _____

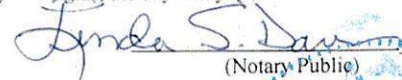
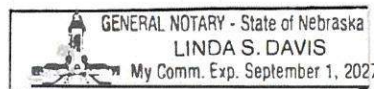


Jeffrey A. Silver, Secretary

STATE OF NEBRASKA
COUNTY OF DOUGLAS SS:

On this 16th day of August A.D. 2023, before me a Notary Public of the State of Nebraska, in and for the County of Douglas, duly commissioned and qualified, came THE ABOVE OFFICER OF THE COMPANY, to me personally known to be the individual and officer described in, and who executed the preceding instrument, and he acknowledged the execution of the same, and being by me duly sworn, deposed and said that he is the officer of the said Company aforesaid, and that the seal affixed to the preceding instrument is the Corporate Seal of said Company, and the said Corporate seal and his signature as officer were duly affixed and subscribed to the said instrument by the authority and direction of the said corporation, and that Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of said Company, referred to in the preceding instrument is now in force.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed my Official Seal at the County of Douglas, the day and year first above written.


(Notary Public)

I, the undersigned Officer of the **California Insurance Company**, a California Corporation of Foster City, California, **Continental Indemnity Company, Illinois Insurance Company and Pennsylvania Insurance Company**, New Mexico Corporations of Santa Fe, New Mexico, do hereby certify that the original POWER OF ATTORNEY of which the foregoing is full, true and correct copy is still in full force and effect and has not been revoked.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the Seal of said Company, on the 28th day of March, 2025



Jeffrey A. Silver, Secretary