



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: MS GM 266A
B000800

February 16, 2021

Panther Interstate Pipeline Energy, LLC
14401 Walters Rd., Suite 960
Houston, TX 77014
Attn: Jeff Shipper

Dear Mr. Shipper:

Your email requesting early cancellation of Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Pipeline Right-of-Way Grant Bond No. B000800, in the amount of \$300,000, was received by our office on January 20, 2021. This bond, conditioned to cover principal's pipeline operations in the Gulf of Mexico, was executed on March 22, 2004, with Panther Interstate Pipeline Energy, LLC as principal and U. S. Specialty Insurance Company as surety.

Pursuant to 30 CFR 556.906 (d)(1) your bond may be cancelled seven years after the termination of the lease, six years after completion of all bonded obligations, or at the conclusion of any appeals or litigation related to your bonded obligation, whichever is the latest. These requirements for Bond No. B000800 have not been met: the request for early cancellation is denied.

If you require further assistance, please contact us at boemgomrfinancialassurance@boem.gov.

Sincerely,
**BERNADETTE
THOMAS**
Digitally signed by
BERNADETTE THOMAS
Date: 2021.02.16 16:09:43
-06'00'
Bernadette Thomas
Regional Supervisor
Leasing and Plans

cc: U.S. Specialty Insurance Company
13403 Northwest Freeway
Houston, TX 77040
Attn: W. Russell Brown

Sent Via Email To: jshipper@pantherassetmgmt.com , draker@higginbotham.net ,
manderson@indemco.com



Jeff Shipper <jshipper@pantherassetmgmt.com>

Wed 1/20/2021 12:53 PM

To: GOMRfinancialassurance, BOEM; Celata, Michael



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Hi Kathleen and Michael and Happy New Year,

Panther appreciates all your efforts to cancel/terminate our bond a few months ago (correspondence attached). We wanted to circle back to determine if there is any way or precedent for getting a waiver on the 6-7 year waiting period to allow for the release of the \$300k in lieu of providing a substitute security.

These are tough times during the pandemic and the \$300K in cash monies we have just sitting idle with the bond/surety company amount to a substantive amount that we could otherwise be utilizing as we continue to maintain our pipeline and pursue repurposing of the state portion of our system.

Appreciate your consideration of the waiver request above.

Jeff Shipper | c 281.414.8195
Panther Interstate Pipeline Energy, LLC

