



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

In Reply Refer To: GM 235D

June 11, 2021

Ms. Valerie Land
W & T Offshore, Inc.
Nine Greenway Plaza, Suite 300
Houston, Texas 77046

Dear Ms. Land,

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No. N-10135
Type Initial Development Operations Coordination Document
Received November 16, 2020, amended December 1 and 21, 2020, and January 12, 2021
Lease(s) OCS-G 22762, Block 316, South Timbalier Area (ST)
OCS-G 36753, Block 332, Ship Shoal Area (SS)

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of June 11, 2021, in accordance with 30 CFR 550.270(b)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for the sidetrack drilling of Well A001 and the revision of air emissions for Platform A (Complex ID 1279-1).

In accordance with 30 CFR 556.901(d), additional security may be required for your proposed activities. Prior to conducting activities in which you need to obtain approvals and/or permits described in 30 CFR 550.281(a) from the appropriate District Manager or BSEE Regional Supervisor, you must contact BOEM Risk Management Operations Group by email at boermog@boem.gov to determine if additional security is required and comply with any demand for this security.

In response to the request accompanying your plan for a hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) classification, the area in which the proposed drilling operations are to be conducted is hereby classified, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.490(c), as "H₂S absent."

You must comply with the following species protective measures in all activities conducted pursuant to the plan:

- **COMPLIANCE WITH BIOLOGICAL OPINION TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND REASONABLE AND PRUDENT MEASURES:** This approval is conditioned upon compliance with the Reasonable and Prudent Measures and implementing Terms and Conditions of the Biological Opinion issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on March 13, 2020. This includes mitigation, particularly any appendices to Terms and Conditions applicable to the plan, as well as record-keeping and reporting

sufficient to allow BOEM and BSEE to comply with reporting and monitoring requirements under the Biological Opinion; and any additional reporting required by BOEM or BSEE developed as a result of Biological Opinion implementation. The NMFS Biological Opinion may be found here:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-activities-gulf-mexico>. The Appendices and protocols may be found here: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/appendices-biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-gulf-mexico>.

- **SUPPORT BASES AND VESSEL TRANSIT ROUTES:** Approval of your plan is conditioned upon your use of the support bases and vessel transit routes as described in your plan. BOEM/BSEE must be notified at least 15 days prior to any vessel route changes that require transit of the Bryde's Whale area, and you must receive prior approval for that transit from BOEM/BSEE.
- **MARINE TRASH AND DEBRIS AWARENESS AND ELIMINATION:** The applicant will follow the guidance provided under Appendix B. Gulf of Mexico Marine Trash and Debris Awareness and Elimination Survey Protocols found in the Biological Opinion issued by NMFS on March 13, 2020. The guidance can be accessed on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries internet site at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/appendices-biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-gulf-mexico>.
- **VESSEL-STRIKE AVOIDANCE/REPORTING:** The applicant will follow the guidance provided under Appendix C. Gulf of Mexico Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured/Dead Aquatic Protected Species Reporting Protocols found in the Biological Opinion issued by NMFS on March 13, 2020. The guidance can be accessed on the NOAA Fisheries internet site at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/appendices-biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-gulf-mexico>.
- **SEISMIC SURVEY OPERATION, MONITORING, AND REPORTING GUIDELINES:** The applicant will follow the guidance provided under Appendix A. Seismic Survey Mitigation and Protected Species Observer Protocols found in the Biological Opinion issued by NMFS on March 13, 2020. The guidance can be accessed on the NOAA Fisheries internet site at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/appendices-biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-gulf-mexico>.
- **SEA TURTLE RESUSCITATION GUIDELINES:** The applicant will follow the guidance provided under Appendix J. Sea Turtle Handling and Resuscitation Guidelines found in the Biological Opinion issued by the NMFS on March 13, 2020. The guidance can be accessed on the NOAA Fisheries internet site at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/appendices-biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-gulf-mexico>.
- **SLACK-LINE PRECAUTIONS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT:** If operations require the use of flexible, small diameter (< 1 inch) nylon, plastic, or fiber lines to support operations (with or without divers), operators and contractors must reduce the slack in the line to prevent accidental entanglement of Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species. The following measures are required (noting that diver safety is

paramount, and the following measures should be followed only in cases where they do not jeopardize human safety).

1. Operators must utilize tensioning tools and/or other appropriate procedures to reduce unnecessary looseness in the lines and/or potential looping.
2. The lines must remain taut.
3. A line tender must be present at all times during dive operations and must monitor the line(s) the entire time a diver is in the water.

Should the line tender and/or diver become aware of any ESA listed species entanglement, the following protocols must be followed as soon as safety permits.

Should an ESA listed species interaction result in entanglement, entrapment and/or injury occur, the interaction must be reported immediately or after diver safety (if present) is ensured.

For assistance with marine mammals contact the number(s) below:

| Marine Mammals | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| State Stranding Network | Telephone |
| Texas | (800) 962-6625 |
| Louisiana | (504) 235-3005 |
| Mississippi | (888) 767-3657 |
| Alabama | (877) 942-5343 |
| Florida | (888) 404-3922 |

* Note: If you do not receive a response, go to the following website to ensure the listed number is correct:
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/report>.

For assistance with sea turtles contact the number(s) below:

| Sea Turtles | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| State Stranding Network | Telephone |
| Texas | (361) 949-8173 x 226 |
| Louisiana | (844) 732-8785 |
| Mississippi | (228) 369-4796 |
| Alabama | (866) 732-8878 |
| Florida | (888) 404-3922 |

* Note: If you do not receive a response, go to the following website to ensure the listed number is correct:
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/report>.

Assistance with other ESA listed species (e.g., giant manta ray, oceanic whitetip shark, or Gulf sturgeon) should contact the ESA Section 7 biologist at (301) 427-8413 (nmfs.psoreview@noaa.gov) and report all incidents to takereport.nmfsser@noaa.gov.

After the appropriate stranding networks have been contacted for assistance, you may contact BSEE at protectedspecies@bsee.gov for questions or additional guidance on

recovery assistance needs (if still required), continued monitoring requirements, and incidental report information which at minimum is detailed below.

Within 24 hours of any event or observation, notify NMFS at nmfs.psoreview@noaa.gov and BSEE at protectedspecies@bsee.gov with the following information:

1. Time, date, water depth, and location (latitude/longitude) of the first discovery of the interaction;
2. Name, type, and call sign of the vessel (or platform) in which the event occurred;
3. Species identification (if known) or description of the animal involved;
4. Condition of the animal during the event;
5. Photographs or video footage of the animal;
6. Stranding network line that was contacted for assistance;
7. General narrative and timeline describing the events that took place;

These measures are designed to promote environmental protection, consistent environmental policy, compliance with environmental laws, and safety.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this approval, please contact Laura Christensen at (504) 736-2959.

Sincerely,

for Bernadette Thomas
 Regional Supervisor
 Office of Leasing and Plans