

## United States Department of the Interior

## MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Southern Administrative Service Center 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394

In Reply Refer To: MS 5231

May 20, 2005

Mr. Ron Campbell
BHP Billiton Petroleum (GOM) Inc.
1360 Post Oak Boulevard
Suite 150
Houston, Texas 77056-3020

Dear Mr. Campbell:

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No. S-06641

Type Supplemental Exploration Plan

Received March 7, 2005, amended March 10, 2005

Lease(s) OCS-G 08037, Block 617, Atwater Valley Area

OCS-G 08038, Block 618, Atwater Valley Area

The Minerals Management Service Unit Agreement Number for the Atwater Valley Block 574 Unit is 754395004.

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of April 22, 2005, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.203(i)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for Wells S and T.

Exercise caution while drilling due to indications of shallow gas and possible water flow.

In response to the request accompanying your plan for a hydrogen sulfide ( $\rm H_2S$ ) 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 " $\rm H_2S$  absent."

In accordance with Notice to Lessees and Operators No. 2003-G03, the Minerals Management Service has determined that you will not need to conduct the two Remotely Operated Vehicle surveys you proposed in your plan.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this approval, please contact Robert Stringfellow at (504) 736-2437.

Sincerely,

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Donald C. Howard
Regional Supervisor
Field Operations