

## United States Department of the Interior

## MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

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



In Reply Refer To: MS 5231 July 18, 2005

Ms. Sunna Denny Newfield Exploration Company 363 North Sam Houston Parkway E. Suite 2020 Houston, Texas 77060

Dear Ms. Denny:

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No. N-08465

Initial Exploration Plan

Received June 15, 2005 Lease(s) OCS-G 26025, Block 153, Eugene Island Area

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of July 11, 2005, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.203(i)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for Wells and Well Protectors A and B.

In response to the request accompanying your plan for a hydrogen sulfide  $(H_2S)$ 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 "H<sub>2</sub>Sabsent."

If you have any questions or comments concerning this approval, please contact Karen Dunlap at (504) 736-2535.

Sincerely,

or Donald C. Howard Regional Supervisor Field Operations

TO 30 27700 P. CHAT

