



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

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

In Reply Refer To: GM 235D

February 23, 2026

Mr. Paul Rodriguez  
Walter Oil & Gas Corporation  
1100 Louisiana St.  
Suite 200  
Houston, Texas 77002

Dear Mr. Rodriguez,

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No.	N-10263
Type	Initial Development Operations Coordination Document
Received	November 13, 2025,
Lease(s)	OCS-G 36763, Block 953, Ewing Bank Area (EW)

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of February 23, 2026, in accordance with 30 CFR 550.270(b)(1).

This approval included the activities proposed for Well SS001.

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 Section by email at [boemrms@boem.gov](mailto:boemrms@boem.gov) to determine if additional security is required and comply with any demand for this security.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.) is designed to protect threatened and endangered species and applies to activities authorized under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. §§ 1331 et seq.). BOEM, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) consulted on oil and gas program activities in the Gulf of America and NMFS issued a 2025 Biological Opinion and associated Attachments and Appendices that include required mitigations. Conditions of Approval (COA) derived from this consultation ensure ESA compliance.

ESA consultation documents and required mitigations covering oil and gas activities in the Gulf of America, can be found here: <https://www.boem.gov/regions/gulf-america-ocs-region/oil-and-gas-esa-consultations-and-guidance>. You must comply with the protective measures for all

activities conducted pursuant to the plan. Activities conducted in association with the subject approval must adhere to these COAs, including all reporting requirements therein.

The following species protective measures found in the link (<https://www.boem.gov/oil-gas-energy/gom-o-g-esa-coas>) are applicable for your proposed activities. The numbering below corresponds to the numbering found in the linked document entitled *Gulf of Mexico Oil and Gas Endangered Species Act Conditions of Approval*:

- A.0 Compliance with Biological Opinion Terms and Conditions and Reasonable and Prudent Measures
- A.1 Operational Nation Mitigation Protocols for Geophysical Surveys
- A.2 Marine Debris Protocol
- A.3 Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured and/or Dead Aquatic Protected Species Reporting Protocols
- A.4 In-water Line Precaution Protocol
- A.5 Moon Pool Monitoring protocol
- A.6 Vessel Transit within the Rice's Whale Area as identified in the 2020 Biological Opinion's Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (2020 RWA)
- A.7 Sea Turtle Resuscitation Guidelines Protocol

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 Henry Emembolu at [henry.emembolu@boem.gov](mailto:henry.emembolu@boem.gov) or (504) 736-7553.

Sincerely,

for     Bernadette Thomas  
          Regional Supervisor  
          Office of Leasing and Plans