



# 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

October 6, 2017

Ms. Sylvia Bellone  
Shell Offshore Inc.  
P.O. Box 61933  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70161-1933

Dear Ms. Bellone,

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No. N-09995  
Type Initial Exploration Plan  
Received August 16, 2017  
Lease(s) OCS-G 31194, Block 684, Alaminos Canyon Area (AC)  
OCS-G 31195, Block 728, Alaminos Canyon Area (AC)  
OCS-G 32988, Block 771, Alaminos Canyon Area (AC)  
OCS-G 35153, Block 772, Alaminos Canyon Area (AC)

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of October 6, 2017, in accordance with 30 CFR 550.233 (b) (1).

This approval includes the proposed activities for Subsea Wells A, B, CST, D, E, FST, and G in AC Block 728, Subsea Wells AST, C, and HST in AC Block 772, Subsea Wells EST and F in AC Block 864, and Subsea Well H in AC Block 771.

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](mailto:boermog@boem.gov) to determine if additional security is required and comply with any demand for this security.

The projected NO<sub>x</sub> emissions amounts in your plan were calculated using historic fuel consumption. Maintain monthly records of the total annual fuel consumption for the equipment presented in the table below.

| Equipment                     | Total Annual Fuel Consumption Limit (gal/yr) |
|-------------------------------|--|
| six 10,728-hp prime movers    | 6,750,540 (for all six)                      |
| three 9,790-hp supply vessels | 1,645,460 (for all three)                    |
| 5,400-hp crew vessel          | 253,530                                      |

Provide this information to the BOEM Regional Supervisor, Office of Leasing and Plans, Plans Section (GM235D) annually by February 1st of each year, beginning in the year 2018. If no activities were conducted during a calendar year, provide a statement to that effect in lieu of the required records. If

at any time during your activities these records indicate that your NO<sub>x</sub> annual emissions may exceed the annual limit approved in your plan or the total annual fuel consumption limit, you must immediately prepare a revised plan pursuant to 30 CFR 550.283 to include the recalculated emissions amounts. You will not proceed with the actions that could cause the potential annual increase in emissions until the revised plan has been submitted to and approved by BOEM.

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

Exercise caution while drilling due to indications of shallow faulting.

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

- BOEM Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) No. 2016-G01, "Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured/Dead Protected Species Reporting" (available at <http://www.boem.gov/BOEM-NTL-No-2016-G01>);
- BOEM NTL No. 2016-G02, "Implementation of Seismic Survey Mitigation Measures and Protected Species Observer Program" (available at <http://www.boem.gov/BOEM-NTL-2016-G02>); and
- BSEE NTL No. 2015-G03, "Marine Trash and Debris Awareness and Elimination" (available at <https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/notices-to-lessees-ntl/alerts/ntl-2015-g03.pdf>).

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 Leslie Wilson at (504)736-2588.

Sincerely,

**MICHELLE  
PICOU**  Digitally signed by  
MICHELLE PICOU  
Date: 2017.10.06  
14:36:11 -05'00'

for Ann H. Glazner  
Acting Regional Supervisor  
Leasing and Plans