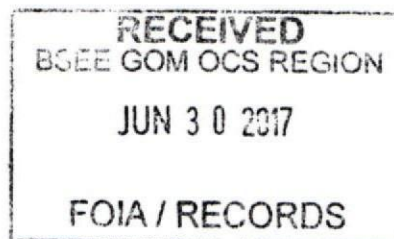


In Reply Refer To: GE 973E

MAY 17 2017

FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Mark L. Clark  
Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons, L.L.P.  
Attorneys and Counselors  
One Riverway, Suite 1400  
Houston, Texas 77056



Mr. Benjamin Smith  
Monforte Exploration L.L.C.  
3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 3300  
Houston, Texas 77027


Dear Mr. Clark and Mr. Smith:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your Notice of Appeal, dated May 8, 2017, appealing our decision dated March 10, 2017, issued by Mr. Richie D. Baud, Regional Supervisor, Office of Production and Development, regarding the denial of Monforte Exploration L.L.C.'s request for a Suspension of Production for Lease OCS-G 2923, Ship Shoal Block 291. Your appeal was received by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement on May 9, 2017.

All questions concerning this appeal should be directed to Mr. Dennis Daugherty, Assistant Solicitor for Petroleum and Offshore Resources, Division of Mineral Resources, Office of the Solicitor, at (202) 208-5038.

Sincerely,

(Org. Signed) Troy J. Guidry

 Richie D. Baud  
Regional Supervisor  
Production and Development

✓bc: GE 250i

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