



United States Department of the Interior  
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT  
Gulf of America OCS Region  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

In Reply Refer To: GE 973E

July 8, 2025

Mr. Rian S. Riche  
Shell Offshore Inc.  
Post Office Box 61933  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70161

Dear Mr. Riche:

By letter dated May 22, 2025, Shell Offshore Inc. (Shell) requests approval of a Suspension of Production (SOP) for the Garden Banks (GB) Block 959 Unit, Agreement No. 754316004. The unit consists of Leases OCS-G 30869, 30870, 30876, and 32460, and was held by a prior suspension through May 31, 2025.

Shell continues fabrication of the host facility and is preparing to commence batch drilling. The SOP is requested to allow time to construct, transport, and install the production facility and deepen, complete and commence production from the unit wells.

In accordance with Articles IX, XVI, and XVII of the Unit Agreement and 30 CFR 250.174(a), an SOP for the GB Block 959 Unit is hereby approved from June 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026. Shell is expected to follow the enclosed SOP activity schedule and must notify this office in writing (progress report) by the end of each month in which a deadline is scheduled. If you have any questions, contact Mr. Mike Nixdorff at (504) 736-2660 or [michael.nixdorff@bsee.gov](mailto:michael.nixdorff@bsee.gov).

Sincerely,

**NATASHA  
BLAND**

Natasha Bland  
Regional Supervisor  
Office of Production and Development

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NATASHA BLAND  
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Enclosure