United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
Alaska OCS Region
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-5823

Mr. Aaron O'Quinn
Land Manager, Hilcorp Alaska, LLC
3800 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 1400
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Mr. O'Quinn,

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement's (BSEE) Alaska Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Region received Hilcorp Alaska, LLC's (Hilcorp) request for a Suspension of Production (SOP) for the three OCS leases comprising the Liberty Unit on August 28, 2024, as well as the supplemental information provided on December 13, 2024 (Supplement). The leases were held under an SOP that was granted on December 22, 2021, for a period of 3 years, expiring December 26, 2024. The three leases are OCS-Y-1585, OCS-Y-1650, OCS-Y-1886, all located in the Beaufort Sea OCS. The Acting Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior denied Hilcorp's request for an SOP on December 26, 2024. This decision was rescinded by the Associate Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior on April 24, 2025, and remanded to BSEE for further consideration of the SOP request.

To further consider this SOP request, BSEE requires additional information from Hilcorp. Please address the following items listed below:

1. Verify that all the information provided in the prior SOP and Supplement is still valid.
2. Pursuant to 30 CFR 250.171(b), your SOP must include a Reasonable Schedule of Work (RSOW). Please review 30 CFR 250.170(a) and submit to BSEE a reasonable length of the suspension request for our review and response.
3. The RSOW needs to show measurable progress. The Supplement milestones are clustered in the final year of the request. Hilcorp should supply project milestones to justify the years leading up to the final year of the SOP. For example: Expand on the "Permitting, Facility Upgrades, Procurement for the 2028-2029 drilling campaign" item.
    a. The milestones should be Hilcorp's actions taken and not actions by other organizations or actions otherwise outside of Hilcorp's control.
    b. Hilcorp should explain how the milestones will progress the Liberty Project in particular toward resumption of production.
4. Pursuant to 30 CFR 250.171(d) Hilcorp must demonstrate a commitment to production. Hilcorp should share the results of the feasibility study that is cited in the original request. Identify actions Hilcorp has taken due to this study to progress the Liberty Project toward resumption of production.
    a. Hilcorp should demonstrate the economic viability of the Liberty Project considering the change in project scope of drilling from an offshore standalone island to the use of extended reach drilling from the existing Endicott Satellite Drill Island (SDI).
5. Provide a status update on the Oil Spill Response Plan required for the Liberty Project pursuant to 30 CFR 254.1 and 245.50.

Please contact me at (805) 384-6359 or Bobby.Kurtz@bsee.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

ROBERT KURTZ

Digitally signed by ROBERT KURTZ
Date: 2025.05.23 11:48:53 -07'00'

Bobby Kurtz
Acting Alaska Regional Director, BSEE

cc: Jessie Chmielowski, Commissioner, AOGCC
jessie.chmielowski@alaska.gov
333 W 7th AVE
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-793-1223

Greg Wilson, Commissioner, AOGCC
greg.wilson@alaska.gov
333 W 7th AVE
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-793-1223

Jim Regg, Senior Petroleum Engineer, AOGCC
jim.regg@alaska.gov
333 W 7th AVE
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-793-1236

Givey Kochanowski, Alaska Regional Director, BOEM
forgiveness.kochanowski@boem.gov
3801 Centerpoint Dr., Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99503

Howard Cantor, Director, ONRR
howard.cantor@onrr.gov
Office of National Resources Revenue
PO Box 25165
Denver, CO 80225-0165