United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

November 18, 2025

Mr. Aaron O'Quinn, Landman
Hilcorp Alaska, LLC
3800 Centerpoint Dr., Suite 1400
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Mr. O'Quinn:
Hilcorp Alaska, LLC (Hilcorp), is the designated operator of the Liberty Unit and lessee of the three leases that make up the Unit, Leases OCS-Y-1585, OCS-Y-1650, OCS-Y-1886 (the Leases). The Leases are beyond their primary term and were set to expire on December 26, 2024, under a prior Suspension of Production (SOP). However, the Leases are currently held and are still valid pursuant to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement's (BSEE) review of a pending request for an SOP that Hilcorp submitted on August 28, 2024, which was before the December expiration date.

BSEE will not be deciding Hilcorp's August 28, 2024, request for a granted SOP. Instead, BSEE has determined that it is in the National interest to direct a suspension to allow Hilcorp to properly develop the Leases in accordance with 30 CFR 250.174(a).

As part of the Department of the Interior's response to Executive Order (E.O.) 14156, *Declaring a National Energy Emergency*, dated January 20, 2025, BSEE is directed, through Secretarial Order (S.O.) 3417, *Addressing the National Energy Emergency*, to identify and exercise lawful authorities to facilitate the generation of domestic energy resources on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) of the United States. In addition, BSEE is tasked with implementing provisions of President Trump's January 20, 2025, E.O. 14153, entitled, "*Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential*," which directs the Secretary of the Interior to exercise all lawful authority and discretion available and take all necessary steps to unleash the State of Alaska's abundant and largely untapped supply of natural resources. The provisions of this E.O. that direct BSEE to take this necessary action are in turn directed through S.O. 3422, "*Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential.*"

As recognized in E.O. 14153, the State of Alaska holds abundant and largely untapped natural resources. Unlocking these resources will help to enhance the Nation's economic and national security for generations. BSEE is committed to enabling efficient development of Alaska's abundant resources to deliver price relief for Americans, create high-quality jobs for Alaskans, and mitigate trade imbalances with other nations. As proposed, the recoverable oil resources at stake for these Leases are estimated to be of such a quantity as to support production of up to 20,000 barrels of oil per day with transport through the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, which will benefit Alaskans and all Americans well into the future.

By issuing this directed SOP with the attached Activity Schedule (see Enclosure), BSEE is allowing additional time for Hilcorp to properly develop the Leases. Therefore, BSEE hereby directs an SOP for the Leases, from December 26, 2024, through December 26, 2029.

United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

Hilcorp is expected to follow the enclosed Activity Schedule in order to properly develop the Leases and must notify the Alaska OCS Regional Office in writing (via Progress Report) by the end of each month in which an activity is due to be completed according to the Activity Schedule.

In light of this action, the aforementioned SOP request, dated August 28, 2024, is hereby deemed moot. If you have any questions regarding this matter or about submitting monthly reports, please contact Justin Miller, Regional Director, Alaska OCS Region, at (907) 334-4300 or Justin.Miller@bsee.gov.

Sincerely,

KENNETH STEVENS

Digitally signed by KENNETH STEVENS
Date: 2025.11.18 08:42:23 -05'00'

Kenneth Stevens
Acting Director, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement

Enclosure

United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

ENCLOSURE: ACTIVITY SCHEDULE Liberty Unit Suspension of Production Leases OCS-Y-1585, OCS-Y-1650, OCS-Y-1886	
ACTIVITY	**DEADLINE**
Submit New or Unusual Technology Conceptual Plan to BSEE 'deemed submitted' (complete) for the ultra-Extended Reach Drilling (uERD) concept	January 2026
Finalize uERD well designs	April 2026
Sign internal and external Annual Fiscal Expenditures (AFEs) to procure long-lead equipment	May 2026
Submit Deepwater Operations Plan (DWOP) to BSEE 'deemed submitted' (complete) if deemed necessary by BSEE for the concepts described in the New/Unusual Technology Conceptual Plan	June 2026
Submit oil spill response plan (OSRP) to BSEE 'deemed submitted' (complete)	July 2026
Submit Applications for Permit to Drill (APDs) to BSEE 'deemed submitted' (complete)	November 2026
Submit Production Safety System (PSS) application to BSEE 'deemed submitted' (complete)	February 2027
Sign internal and external AFEs to execute rig contract and procure remaining equipment	May 2027
Finalize drilling contracts and equipment procurement	June 2027
Mobilize drilling rig to Endicott SDI	February 2028
Commence drilling operations for first well top hole anticipating pause in drilling activity during open water season (August-October 2028)	March 2028
Finish drilling top hole section of first well, including the setting and cementing of the casing shoe into the formation just above the productive interval as permitted in the APD. Secure wellbore for inactivity during open water season.	August 2028
Commence drilling operations targeting the productive hydrocarbon formation	November 2028
Complete drilling and completion, well testing, and commissioning of first well	February 2029
Provide notification to BSEE at least 72 hours in advance of initial production to enable BSEE inspection of production safety systems	December 23, 2029
Commence sustained production in paying quantities from any Liberty Unit OCS lease	December 26, 2029
Notification of first production (BSEE must be notified within 5 working days of the well commencing production)	January 2, 2030
Complete Well Flow Potential Test. Test must commence within 30 days of the date of first continuous production	January 26, 2030