



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

New Orleans Office  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

In Reply Refer To: Bond No. DUA002852

December 19, 2025

Houston Energy Deepwater Ventures IX, LLC  
Two Allen Center  
1200 Smith, Suite 2400  
Houston, TX 77002  
Attn: Vanessa V. Veltman

Dear Ms. Veltman:

Your letter dated December 18, 2025, submitting Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Mineral Lessee's or Operator's Supplemental Bond No. DUA002852, in the amount of \$664,620, was received by our office on December 19, 2025. This bond, conditioned to cover Lease OCS-G 34441, all of Block 521, Mississippi Canyon, was executed on December 10, 2025, with Houston Energy Deepwater Ventures IX, LLC as principal and AXIS Insurance Company as surety.

The bond conforms to the requirements of the leasing and operating regulations for the submerged lands of the Outer Continental Shelf. It is effective as of the date filed, December 19, 2025.

Should you need further assistance, please contact Kathleen Lee at (504) 736-5774 or [boemgulffinancialassurance@boem.gov](mailto:boemgulffinancialassurance@boem.gov).

Sincerely,

**BERNADETTE THOMAS**  
Digitally signed by  
BERNADETTE THOMAS  
Date: 2025.12.19  
08:30:05 -06'00'

Bernadette Thomas  
Regional Supervisor  
Leasing and Plans

cc: Vanessa Veltman ([vveltman@houstonenergyinc.com](mailto:vveltman@houstonenergyinc.com))  
Stacy Killebrew ([stacy.killebrew@alliant.com](mailto:stacy.killebrew@alliant.com))  
Austin Wheeler ([Austin.Wheeler@dualinsurance.com](mailto:Austin.Wheeler@dualinsurance.com))

**Houston Energy Deepwater  
Ventures IX, LLC**

Two Allen Center  
1200 Smith, Suite 2400  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Phone: (713) 650-8008  
Fax: (713) 650-8305



December 19, 2025

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Department of the Interior  
Adjudication Unit (GM 276A)  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

**RECEIVED**

**December 19, 2025**

*Leasing & Financial  
Responsibility Section*

Re: New Bond

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Please find enclosed for your further handling and review a new bond for Kosmos Energy Gulf of Mexico Operations, LLC Bond. Axis Insurance Company Bond is a new bond covering Houston Energy Deepwater Ventures IX, LLC interest in OCS-G 34441.

New Bond details:

Bond type: Supplemental – Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Mineral Lessee’s or Operator’s Supplemental Bond (BOEM-2028A form)

Bond Number: DUA002852

Area/property covered: OCS-G 34441

Penalty Amount: \$664,620.00

Principal:

Surety:

Houston Energy Deepwater Ventures IX, LLC

Axis Insurance Company

Two Allen Center

10000 Avalon Boulevard, Suite 200

1200 Smith Street, Suite 2400

Alpharetta, GA 30009

Houston, Texas 77002

Point of contact during review: Vanessa Veltman – [vveltman@houstonenergyinc.com](mailto:vveltman@houstonenergyinc.com)

Principal contact: Vanessa Veltman - [vveltman@houstonenergyinc.com](mailto:vveltman@houstonenergyinc.com)

Broker contact: Stacy Killebrew – [stacy.killebrew@alliant.com](mailto:stacy.killebrew@alliant.com)

Surety contact: Austin Wheeler – [Austin.Wheeler@dualinsurance.com](mailto:Austin.Wheeler@dualinsurance.com)

Once this document has been filed, please return a processed copy to my attention. Please contact me with any questions at 713.650.8008 or by email [vveltman@houstonenergyinc.com](mailto:vveltman@houstonenergyinc.com).

Best regards,

**HOUSTON ENERGY DEEPWATER VENTURES IX, LLC**

*Vanessa V. Veltman*

Cover Page  
**OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF (OCS)  
MINERAL LESSEE'S OR OPERATOR'S  
SUPPLEMENTAL BOND**

**Form BOEM-2028A**

This form dated **July 2024** supersedes all previous versions of form BOEM-2028A

All Bond Forms must be submitted with a transmittal letter to the appropriate BOEM office:

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Gulf of America OCS Office  
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd. New Orleans LA 70123-2394  
Leasing and Financial Responsibility - Mail Stop GM266A

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Alaska OCS Office  
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500  
Anchorage AK 99503-5820 Alaska Leasing Section

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Pacific OCS Office  
760 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 102  
Camarillo CA 93010  
Lease Management

**RECEIVED**

**December 19, 2025**

*Leasing & Financial  
Responsibility Section*

**Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) Statement:** The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) requires us to inform you that BOEM collects this information to hold the surety liable for the obligations and liability of the Principal (lessee or operator). Responses are mandatory. No proprietary information is collected. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form should be directed to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 45600 Woodland Road, Sterling, VA 20166.

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Ocean Energy Management**

Bond No. DUA002852

OCS Lease/RUE/ROW No. OCS-G34441

Bond Type Supplemental

Amount \$ 664,620.00

**OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF (OCS) MINERAL LESSEE'S OR OPERATOR'S  
SUPPLEMENTAL BOND**

The Surety is the entity Guaranteeing Performance.

Name of Surety: AXIS Insurance Company

Mailing Address: 10000 Avalon Boulevard, Suite 200  
Alpharetta, GA 30009

If a Corporation, Incorporated in the State of: Illinois; County or Parish of: Peoria

Check here if Surety is certified by U.S. Treasury as an acceptable surety on Federal Bonds and listed in the current U.S. Treasury Circular No. 570.

The Principal is the Lessee or Designated Operator for Whom the Bond is Issued.

Name of Principal: Houston Energy Deepwater Ventures IX, LLC

Mailing Address: Two Allen Center, 1200 Smith Street, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77002

Schedule A, the lease/RUE/ROW covered by this bond, is composed of: (add legal description)

Check here if additional information is on attached sheet.

The following lease/RUE/ROW: Lease OCS-G 34441, all of Block 521, Mississippi Canyon

In addition to the Obligations of the Principal during the period of liability of this bond, the Surety also accepts the following Obligations: (Check one)

No Obligations other than the Obligations of the Principal during the period of liability of this bond.

All Obligations of all previous Sureties or guarantors even if the Obligations are not Obligations of the Principal during the period of liability of this bond.

All Obligations of all previous Sureties or guarantors even if the Obligations are not Obligations of the Principal during the period of liability of this bond with the following exceptions or limitations (use an attached rider).

**Definitions**

For the purposes of this document:

A **Principal** includes an entity holding an interest in the oil & gas lease in one or more of the following ways: (1) as an approved record title owner of all or a portion of the lease, (2) as an approved operating rights owner of all or a portion of the lease, or (3) as a designated operator or designated agent in all or a portion of the lease.

A **Lessee** includes an approved record title owner of all or a portion of the lease or an approved operating rights owner of all or a portion of the lease.

An **Obligation** includes any obligation arising from any regulations of the Department of the Interior or any Instrument issued, maintained, or approved under the OCS Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 *et seq.*).

An **Instrument** includes individually or collectively any lease, operating agreement, designation of operator or agent, storage agreement, compensatory royalty agreement, transfer of operating rights, permit, license, or easement, whereunder the Principal has the right, privilege, or license to conduct operations on the OCS.

A **Person** includes an individual, a public or private entity, a State, a political subdivision of a State, any association of individuals, corporations, States, or subdivisions of States, or a government agency.

**By signing below, the Principal verifies that the information above is correct and agrees to the following:**

The Principal as agent on behalf of all lessees, operating rights owners, and operators will fulfill all Obligations for the entire leasehold and to the same extent as though the Principal were the sole lessee for the lease/RUE/ROW in Schedule A.

**By signing below, the Surety verifies that the information above is correct and agrees to the following:**

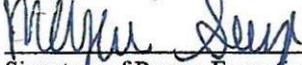
1. The Surety does hereby absolutely and unconditionally bind itself to the United States of America acting through and by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), or such other official designated by the Secretary of the Interior for this purpose, for the payment of all of the cost of the plugging and abandonment Obligations.
2. The Surety will be responsible for all Obligations of the Principal in existence at the time this document becomes effective and all Obligations that accrue after that date and until all Obligations are met or until the Regional Director terminates the period of liability of this bond.
3. If the Regional Director terminates the period of liability of this bond, the Surety will remain responsible for Obligations that accrued during the period of liability until the Regional Director issues a written cancellation of the bond in favor of the Surety.
4. If this bond is cancelled, the Regional Director may reinstate this bond as if no cancellation had occurred if any payment of any Obligation of the Principal(s) is rescinded or must be restored pursuant to any insolvency, bankruptcy, reorganization, or receivership, or should the representation of the Principal that it has paid its financial Obligations or performed the other

Obligations of the lease in accordance with BOEM specifications be materially false and BOEM relied upon such representation in canceling the instrument.

5. The Surety waives any right of notice of this bond taking effect and agrees that this bond will take effect upon delivery to BOEM.
6. The Surety's Obligations will remain in full force and effect, even if:
  - (a) Any person assigns all or part of any interest in an Instrument covered by this document.
  - (b) Any person modifies an Instrument or Obligation under an Instrument in any manner including modifications that result from a commitment to a unit, cooperative, communitization, or storage agreement; suspension of operations or production; suspension or changes in rental, minimum royalty, or royalties; modification of regulations or interpretations of regulations; creation or modification of compensatory royalty agreements or payments; or creation of any mortgage, pledge, or other grant of security interest in the Instruments.
  - (c) Any person, event, or condition terminates any Instrument covered by this bond, whether the termination is by operation of law or otherwise.
  - (d) BOEM takes or fails to take any action in enforcing, as against any party to the Instrument, the payment of rentals or royalties or the performance of any other covenant, condition or agreement of the lease, or giving notice of or making demand with respect to such nonperformance.
  - (e) The Surety suffers any loss by reason of any law limiting, qualifying, or discharging the Principal's Obligation.
7. The Surety agrees to be bound under this bond as to the interests in any Instrument retained by the Principal when BOEM approves the transfer of any or all of the Instruments or interests in the Instruments.
8. In the event of any default under a lease, the Surety must provide payment of all of the cost of the Obligations of the Principal upon demand by BOEM.
9. If BOEM decides to commence suit to enforce its rights, it may commence and prosecute any claim, suit, action, or other proceeding against the Principal and Surety, or either of them, whether or not BOEM joins the lessees or any other party.
10. In the event there is more than one Surety for the Principal's performance of the Obligations, as to any Instrument, the Surety's Obligation and liability under this bond is on a "solidary" or "joint and several" basis along with other guarantors or sureties.
11. The Surety agrees to give prompt notice to BOEM and the Principal of any action filed alleging the insolvency or bankruptcy of the Surety or the Principal, or alleging any violation that would result in suspension or revocation of the Surety's charter or license to do business.
12. The Surety's Obligation and liabilities under this Bond are binding upon the Surety's successors and assigns. Nothing in this document permits assignment of the Surety's Obligation without the written consent of BOEM.
13. The Surety hereby waives any defenses to liability on this bond based on an unauthorized Principal signature.

AXIS Insurance Company

Name of Surety



Signature of Person Executing for Surety

Megan Sivley, Attorney-In-Fact

Name and Title (typed or printed)

10000 Avalon Boulevard, Suite 200

Business Address

Alpharetta, GA 30009

Business Address

Houston Energy Deepwater Ventures IX, LLC

Name of Principal



Signature of Person Executing for Principal

Heath Swire, Vice President

Name and Title (typed or printed)

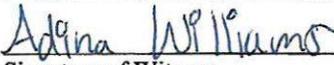
Two Allen Center  
1200 Smith Street, Suite 2400

Business Address

Houston, TX 77002

Business Address

Signed on this 10th day of December, 2025, in the State of Texas, in the presence of:



Signature of Witness

Adina Williams

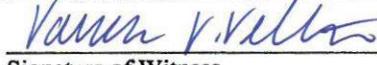
Name (typed or printed)

10000 Avalon Boulevard, Suite 200

Address

Alpharetta, GA 30009

Address



Signature of Witness

Vanessa V. Keltman

Name (typed or printed)

Two Allen Center  
1200 Smith Street, Suite 2400

Address

Houston, TX 77002

Address

*Note:* The person executing for the Surety must attach a corporate resolution and power of attorney stating his or her authority to undertake this Obligation, pursuant to the acts of the corporate board of directors and the laws of the State of incorporation. The corporation executing this bond as Surety and the Principal, if a corporation, must affix their corporate seals.

**BOEM-2028A (July 2024)**

Previous Editions are Obsolete.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know All Men by These Presents: That AXIS Insurance Company, an Illinois property and casualty company, (the "Company") does hereby appoint:

Madison Diaz, S. Nicole Evans, Stephanie Gunderson, Melissa Haddick, Rebecca J. Hobbs, Tannis Mattson, Jessica Rosser, and Megan Sivley

as its true and lawful Attorney(s)-In-Fact, to make, execute, seal and deliver for and on its behalf as surety, bonds and undertakings, such documents to be valid as though executed by the Company on its own behalf. The Company may revoke this appointment at any time.

EXCEPTION: NO AUTHORITY is granted to make, execute, seal and deliver bonds or undertakings that guarantee the payment or collection of any promissory note, check, draft or letter of credit.

This Power of Attorney is signed, sealed and certified under and by the authority of resolutions adopted by unanimous written consent of the Board of Directors of the Company on September 27, 2023:

RESOLVED, that in connection with the Agreements, any one of the Chief Executive Officer, President, any Executive Vice President, any Senior Vice President of the Company, or any Vice President - Surety (each an "Authorized Officer"), acting singly, shall have the power and authority to appoint and revoke Attorneys-In-Fact, and to allow such Attorneys-In-Fact to further delegate their power and authority pursuant to appropriate written agreements, to make, execute, seal and deliver for and on behalf of the Company as surety, bonds and undertakings, such documents to be valid as though executed by the Company on its own behalf, and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that each of the each of the Authorized Officers and any Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Company, hereby is, acting singly, authorized, empowered and directed to perform such acts and things as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the foregoing resolution and the transactions contemplated thereby.

In Witness Whereof, AXIS Insurance Company has caused this instrument to be signed and its corporate seal to be affixed by a duly elected and qualified officer, this 10th day of October, 2023.

Attested and Certified  
AXIS Insurance Company

By: [Signature]  
Printed Name: Andrew M. Weissert  
Title: Senior Vice President



STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF FULTON

Before me personally came Andrew M. Weissert, Senior Vice President of AXIS Insurance Company, to me known to be the individual and officer described herein, who acknowledged that they, being duly authorized, signed, sealed with the corporate seal and delivered the foregoing instrument by the authority and direction of said Company.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal.

[Signature]  
Notary Public



CERTIFICATION

I, Frances R. Mathis, Assistant Secretary of AXIS Insurance Company, do hereby certify that the attached Power of Attorney the 10th day of October, 2023, on behalf of the person(s) as listed above is a true and correct copy and the same has been in full force and effect since the date thereof and is in full force and effect on the date of this certificate; and I do further certify that the said Andrew M. Weissert, who executed the Power of Attorney, was a duly elected Senior Vice President of AXIS Insurance Company on the date of the execution of the attached Power of Attorney.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of AXIS Insurance Company on this the 10th day of December, 2025.

By: [Signature]  
Printed Name: Frances R. Mathis  
Title: Assistant Secretary



[Seal]