



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Gulf of Mexico OCS Region  
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard  
New Orleans, LA 70123 2394

In Reply Refer To: GM 235D

February 21, 2019

Mr. Tom Schwartz  
Castex Offshore, Inc.  
Three Allen Center  
333 Clay Street  
Houston, Texas 77002

Dear Mr. Schwartz,

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No.	N-10033
Type	Initial Exploration Plan
Received	September 17, 2018, amended September 26, October 18, November 1 and 21, and December 10, 2018
Lease(s)	OCS-G 35801, Block 61, West Delta Area (WD)

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of February 21, 2019, in accordance with 30 CFR 550.233(b)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for Well Protector A and Well A.

Drilling permits cannot be issued for the proposed well until concurrence with your coastal zone management consistency certification has been received by this office from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources or until concurrence with the certification has been conclusively presumed.

Be advised that your proposed activities are located within designated significant sediment resource area blocks as listed on BOEM website (available at <https://www.boem.gov/Non-Energy-Minerals/Managing-Multiple-Uses-in-the-Gulf-of-Mexico.aspx>). Any modifications to the location of the well as well as any future proposed activities associated with this well, including pipelines, may require coordination with the Marine Minerals Program to reduce conflicts of use pursuant to BOEM Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) No. 2009-G04, "Significant OCS Sediment Resources in the Gulf of Mexico."

In accordance with 30 CFR 556.901(d), additional security may be required for your proposed activities. Prior to conducting activities in which you need to obtain approvals and/or permits described in 30 CFR 550.281(a) from the appropriate District Manager or BSEE Regional Supervisor, you must contact BOEM Risk Management Operations Group by email at [boemrmog@boem.gov](mailto:boemrmog@boem.gov) to determine if additional security is required and comply with any demand for this security.

In response to the request accompanying your plan for a hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) classification, the area in which the proposed drilling operations are to be

conducted is hereby classified, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.490(c), as "H<sub>2</sub>S absent."

Exercise caution while drilling due to indications of shallow gas.

You must comply with the following species protective measures in all activities conducted pursuant to the plan:

- BOEM NTL No. 2016-G01, "Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured/Dead Protected Species Reporting" (available at <http://www.boem.gov/BOEM-NTL-No-2016-G01/>);
- BOEM NTL No. 2016-G02, "Implementation of Seismic Survey Mitigation Measures and Protected Species Observer Program" (available at <http://www.boem.gov/BOEM-NTL-2016-G02/>); and
- BSEE NTL No. 2015-G03, "Marine Trash and Debris Awareness and Elimination" (available at <https://www.bsee.gov/sites/bsee.gov/files/notices-to-lessees-ntl/alerts/ntl-2015-g03.pdf>).

These measures are designed to promote environmental protection, consistent environmental policy, compliance with environmental laws, and safety.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this approval, please contact Chiquita Hill at (504)736-2668.

Sincerely,

**MICHELLE  
PICOU**

Digitally signed by  
MICHELLE PICOU  
Date: 2019.02.21  
17:29:11 -06'00'

for Bernadette Thomas  
Regional Supervisor  
Office of Leasing and Plans