



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

June 5, 2020

Ms. Sue Sachitana
LLOG Exploration Offshore, L.L.C.
1001 Ochsner Boulevard, Suite 200
Covington, Louisiana 70433

Dear Ms. Sachitana,

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No. S-08006
Type Supplemental Exploration Plan
Received March 18, 2020, amended April 22 and 27, 2020
Lease(s) OCS-G 35827, Block 505, Mississippi Canyon Area (MC)

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of June 5, 2020, in accordance with 30 CFR 550.233(b)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for Subsea Wells C and D.

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 boermog@boem.gov to determine if additional security is required and comply with any demand for this security.

The projected NO_x emissions amounts in your plan were calculated using historic fuel consumption rates. Maintain monthly records of the total annual fuel consumption for the drilling rig only with a limit of 1,020,000 gallons/year and provide the information to the BOEM Regional Supervisor, Office of Leasing and Plans, Plans Section (GM 235D) annually by February 1st of each year, beginning in the year 2021. If no activities were conducted during a calendar year, provide a statement to that effect in lieu of the required records. If at any time during your activities these records indicate that your NO_x annual emissions may exceed the annual limit approved in your plan or the total annual fuel consumption limit, you must immediately prepare a revised plan pursuant to 30 CFR 550.283 to include the recalculated emissions amounts. You will not proceed with the actions that could cause the potential annual increase in emissions until the revised plan has been submitted to and approved by BOEM.

In response to the request accompanying your plan for a hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) 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 "H₂S absent."

Exercise caution while drilling due to indications of shallow gas and possible water flow.

Your proposed operations are located in an area which was used until 1970 by the Department of Defense as an explosives dumping area. Please be advised that precautions should therefore be taken while conducting operations that involve any disturbance of the sea floor in order to avoid possible unexploded ordnance.

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

- **COMPLIANCE WITH BIOLOGICAL OPINION TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND REASONABLE AND PRUDENT MEASURES:** This approval is conditioned upon compliance with the Reasonable and Prudent Measures and implementing Terms and Conditions of the Biological Opinion (BiOp) issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on March 13, 2020. This includes mitigation, particularly any appendices to Terms and Conditions applicable to the plan, as well as record-keeping and reporting sufficient to allow BOEM and BSEE to comply with reporting and monitoring requirements under the BiOp; and any additional reporting required by BOEM or BSEE developed as a result of BiOp implementation. The NMFS BiOp may be found here: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-activities-gulf-mexico>. The Appendices and protocols may be found here: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/appendices-biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-gulf-mexico>.
- **SUPPORT BASES AND VESSEL TRANSIT ROUTES:** Approval of your plan is conditioned upon your use of the support bases and vessel transit routes as described in your plan. BOEM/BSEE must be notified at least 15 days prior to any vessel route changes that require transit of the Bryde's Whale area, and you must receive prior approval for that transit from BOEM/BSEE.
- **MARINE TRASH AND DEBRIS AWARENESS AND ELIMINATION:** The applicant will follow the guidance provided under Appendix B. Gulf of Mexico Marine Trash and Debris Awareness and Elimination Survey Protocols found in the BiOp issued by NMFS on March 13, 2020. The guidance can be accessed on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries internet site at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/appendices-biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-gulf-mexico>.
- **VESSEL-STRIKE AVOIDANCE/REPORTING:** The applicant will follow the guidance provided under Appendix C. Gulf of Mexico Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured/Dead Aquatic Protected Species Reporting Protocols found in the Biological Opinion issued by the NMFS on March 13, 2020. The guidance can be accessed on the NOAA Fisheries internet site at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/appendices-biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-gulf-mexico>.

- **SEISMIC SURVEY OPERATION, MONITORING, AND REPORTING GUIDELINES:** The applicant will follow the guidance provided under Appendix A. Seismic Survey Mitigation and Protected Species Observer Protocols found in the Biological Opinion issued by the NMFS on March 13, 2020. The guidance can be accessed on the NOAA Fisheries internet site at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/appendices-biological-opinion-federally-regulated-oil-and-gas-program-gulf-mexico>.

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

The applicant will also employ the following protective measures:

- **MOON POOL MONITORING AND REPORTING:** A moon pool has been identified during review of your plan submittal. If any sea turtle or other marine mammal is detected, you are required to contact NMFS at nmfs.psoreview@noaa.gov and BSEE at protectedspecies@bsee.gov for additional guidance and incidental report information.
- **ENTANGLEMENT AND ENTRAPMENT MONITORING AND REPORTING:** Should an interaction with equipment or entanglement/entrapment of any Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species occur (i.e., the animal cannot or does not leave the pool on its own volition), the interaction must be reported immediately. Any observation of a leatherback turtle, regardless of whether interaction with equipment or entanglement/entrapment is observed, must be reported immediately. For assistance with marine mammals and sea turtles contact the stranding network listed at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/report> and call BSEE at 985-722-7902 for additional guidance on continued monitoring requirements, recovery assistance needs (if required), and incidental report information. Other ESA listed species (e.g., giant manta ray) should be reported to relevant state agency wildlife lines, the ESA Section 7 Biologist, and call BSEE at 985-722-7902.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this approval, please contact Leslie Wilson at (504)736-2588 or Michelle Griffitt Evans at (504)736-2975.

Sincerely,

for Bernadette Thomas
Regional Supervisor
Office of Leasing and Plans