



United States Department of the Interior

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

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



In Reply Refer To: MS 5231

February 7, 2005

Mr. Thomas Becnel
Spinnaker Exploration Company, L.L.C.
1200 Smith Street
Suite 800
Houston, Texas 77002

Dear Mr. Becnel:

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No.	N-08305
Type	Initial Exploration Plan
Received	December 30, 2004
Lease(s)	OCS-G 23197, Block 165, High Island Area

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of January 31, 2005, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.203(i)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for Well Protectors and Wells A, B, and C.

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 above 16,960'SS is hereby classified, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.490(c), as H₂S absent. However, the area in which the proposed drilling operations are to be conducted below 16,960'SS is hereby classified, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.490(c), as H₂S unknown. Accordingly, comply with the appropriate requirements of 30 CFR 250.490.

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

Sincerely,

Donald C. Howard
Regional Supervisor
Field Operations

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