

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 24, 2005

Mr. J. Kelley Erisman Seneca Resources Corporation 1201 Louisiana Street Suite 400 Houston, Texas 77002-5604

Dear Mr. Erisman:

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No. N-08314

Type Initial Exploration Plan

Received January 6, 2005 Lease(s) OCS-G 26197, Block 388, Viosca Knoll Area

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of February 16, 2005, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.203(i)(1).

This approval includes the activities for Well A.

Exercise caution while drilling due to indications of shallow gas.

In response to the request accompanying your plan for a hydrogen sulfide (H_2S) 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 $"H_2S"$ absent."

If you have any questions or comments concerning this approval, please contact Robert Stringfellow at (504) 736-2437.

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Sincerely,

Donald C. Howard Regional Supervisor Field Operations

