



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

August 17, 2005

Mr. Matt Stanley
ConocoPhillips Company
550 Westlake Park Boulevard
WL3 Room 8020
Houston, Texas 77079

Dear Mr. Stanley:

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No.	N-08413
Type	Initial Exploration Plan
Received	May 4, 2005, amended June 24 and 29, 2005
Lease(s)	OCS-G 22865, Block 256, Mississippi Canyon Area ✓ OCS-G 24069, Block 301, Mississippi Canyon Area

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of August 11, 2005, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.203(i)(1).

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

Drilling permits cannot be issued for the proposed wells until concurrence with your coastal zone management consistency certification has been received by this office from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management or until concurrence with the certification has been conclusively presumed.

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

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 unknown." Accordingly, comply with the appropriate requirements of 30 CFR 250.490.


In accordance with Notice to Lessees and Operators No. 2003-G03, the Minerals Management Service has determined that you will not need to conduct the two Remotely Operated Vehicle surveys you proposed in your plan.

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

Sincerely,


for Donald C. Howard
Regional Supervisor
Field Operations