

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

November 21, 2005

To: Public Information (MS 5030)
From: Plan Coordinator, FO, Plans Section (MS 5231)
Subject: Public Information copy of plan

Control # - N-08602
Type - Initial Exploration Plan
Lease(s) - OCS-G26431 Block - 1133 South Padre Island Area
Operator - F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.
Description - Well Protectors A-1 and B-1 and Wells A1, A2, B1, and B2
Rig Type - JACKUP

Attached is a copy of the subject plan.

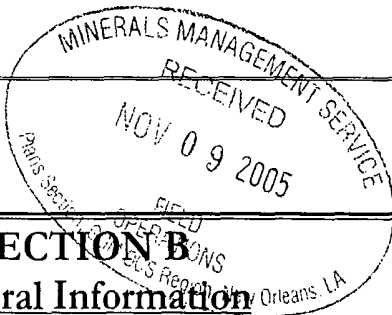
It has been deemed submitted as of this date and is under review for approval.


Karen Dunlap
Plan Coordinator

Site Type/Name	Botm Lse/Area/Blk	Surface Location	Surf Lse/Area/Blk
WP/A1		4000 FSL, 6580 FEL	G26431/PS/1133
WP/A2		4000 FSL, 6580 FEL	G26431/PS/1133
WP/B1		6250 FSL, 8050 FWL	G26431/PS/1133
WP/B2		6250 FSL, 8050 FWL	G26431/PS/1133
WELL/A1	G26431/PS/1133	4000 FSL, 6580 FEL	G26431/PS/1133
WELL/A2	G26431/PS/1133	4000 FSL, 6580 FEL	G26431/PS/1133
WELL/B1	G26431/PS/1133	6250 FSL, 8050 FWL	G26431/PS/1133
WELL/B2	G26431/PS/1133	6250 FSL, 8050 FWL	G26431/PS/1133

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N-8602



SECTION B General Information

A. Contact

Questions or requests for additional information should be made to F-W's authorized representative for this project:

Kimberly Hicks
R.E.M. Solutions, Inc.
17171 Park Row, Suite 390
Houston, Texas 77084
281.492.8562 (Phone)
281.492.6117 (Fax)
kimberly@remolutionsinc.com

B. Prospect Name

F-W does not refer to prospect names for their exploratory activities.

C. New or Unusual Technology

F-W does not propose using any new and/or unusual technology for the operations proposed in this Plan.

D. Bonding Information

In accordance with Title 30 CFR Part 256, Subpart I, F-W Oil will be submitting to the Minerals Management Service Gulf of Mexico Regional Office a \$200,000 Lease Exploratory Bond for South Padre Island Block 1133. ✓

As deemed warranted, Minerals Management Service will contact the designated operator in the event a supplemental bond is required for the proposed operations, as outlined in Notice to Lessees (NTL) 2003-N06 to cover plugging liability of the wellbores, removal of associated well protector structures and site clearance.

F-W Oil is aware that such bonding may be imposed, and will submit accordingly upon notification from the Minerals Management Service. ✓

E. Onshore Base and Support Vessels

The proposed surface disturbances in South Padre Island Block 1133 will be located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline, and approximately 120 miles from the onshore support base to be located in Ingleside, Texas.

F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.
South Padre Island Block 1133
Examples of Wastes and Discharges Information

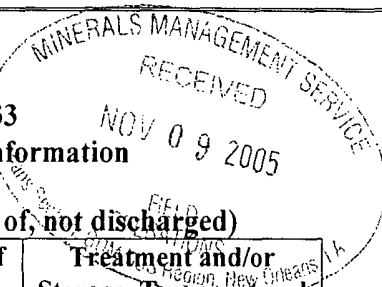
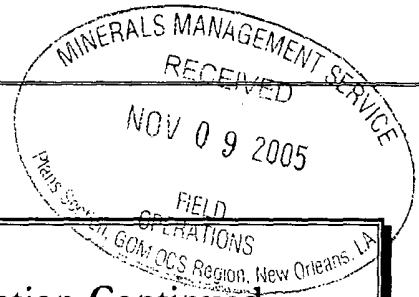


Table 2. Disposal Table (Wastes to be disposed of, not discharged)

Type of Waste Approximate Composition	Amount*	Rate per day	Name/Location of Disposal Facility	Treatment and/or Storage, Transport and Disposal Method
Norm – contaminated wastes	1 ton	Not applicable	Newpark Environmental Ingleside, TX	Transport to a transfer station via dedicated barge
Trash and debris	1,000 ft ³	3 ft ³ /day	Newpark Environmental Ingleside, TX	Transport in storage bins on crew boat to disposal facility
Chemical product wastes	50 bbl/yr	2 bbl/day	Newpark Environmental Ingleside, TX	Transport in containers to shore location
Chemical product wastes	100 bbl	2 bbl/day	Newpark Environmental Ingleside, TX	Transport in barrels on crew boat to shore location

*can be expressed as a volume, weight, or rate



SECTION F

Oil Spill Response and Chemical Information-Continued

I. Oil and Synthetic-Based Drilling Fluids

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

J. Oil Characteristics

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

K. Blowout Scenario

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

L. Spill Discussion for NEPA Analysis

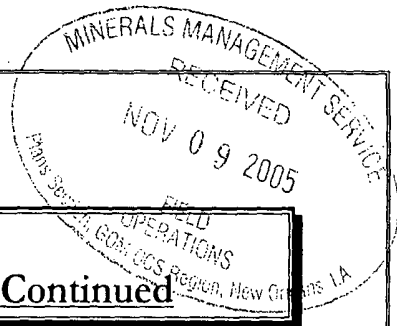
In the event of an uncontrolled spill release resulting from the activities proposed in this Plan, F-W Oil's Person-In-Charge on the MODU or the Shorebase Dispatcher would most likely be the initial individuals to contact the Qualified Individual (QI) or our Spill Management Team (SMT) detailed in the Regional OSRP. The QI would immediately activate the SMT to ascertain the severity of the spill incident. F-W Oil's SMT Incident Command Center is located at O'Brien's Oil Pollution Services temporary office in Houston, Texas.

Dependent upon the severity of the spill incident, a trajectory analysis would be conducted utilizing the MMS Oil Spill Risk Analysis Model (OSRAM) as referenced in our approved Regional OSRP. This trajectory would provide the required information on percentage and timing of potential impact to the shoreline impact areas. The SMT would then identify the areas of sensitivities at potential landfall segment(s), so additional planning may be conducted for shoreline protection strategies. If surveillance indicates a potential threat to shoreline; the appropriate equipment and personnel would be deployed, as outlined in our Regional OSRP.

An overflight may be conducted to determine the extent and dissipation rate of the spill, with potential sampling of the spill release. Mechanical recovery equipment may also be dispatched to the leading edge of the spill, as outlined in our Regional OSRP. If additional offshore response is required, the SMT would initiate the Dispersant Use Plan of the Regional OSRP and utilize the services of Airborne Support Inc.'s aircraft and personnel.

M. Pollution Prevention Measures

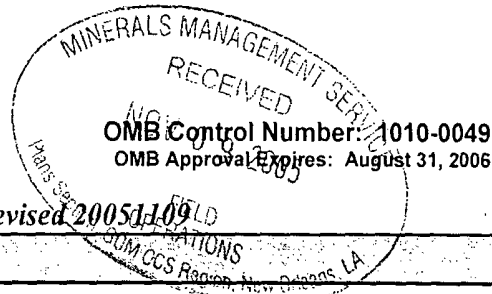
As indicated in the volumes noted above, F-W Oil does not anticipate a potential for initiating additional safety, pollution prevention and/or early spill detection measures beyond those already required by Title 30 CFR Part 250.



SECTION F
Oil Spill Response and Chemical Information-Continued

N. FGBNMS Monitoring Plans

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.



OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM – Revised 20051109

General Information												
Type of OCS Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration Plan (EP)		Development Operations Coordination Document (DOCD)								
Company Name: F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.				MMS Operation Number: 02566								
Address: 9821 Katy Freeway, Suite 1050				Contact Person: Kimberly Hicks at R.E.M. Solutions, Inc.								
Houston, Texas 77024				Phone Number: 281.492.8562								
				E-Mail Address: kimberly@remolutionsinc.com								
Lease(s): OCS-G 26431			Area: PS		Block(s): 1133		Project Name (If Applicable): NA					
Objective(s):		Oil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gas		Sulphur		Salt	Shorebase: Ingleside, Texas		Distance to Closest Land (Miles): 19	
Description of Proposed Activities (Mark all that apply)												
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration drilling					Development drilling						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well completion					Installation of production platform						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well test flaring (for more than 48 hours)					Installation of production facilities						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Installation of caisson or platform as well protection structure					Installation of satellite structure						
	Installation of subsea wellheads and/or manifolds					Commence production						
	Installation of lease term pipelines					Other (Specify and describe)						
Have you submitted or do you plan to submit a Conservation Information Document to accompany this plan?										Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
Do you propose to use new or unusual technology to conduct your activities?										Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
Do you propose any facility that will serve as a host facility for deepwater subsea development?										Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
Do you propose any activities that may disturb an MMS-designated high-probability archaeological area?										<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	No
Have all of the surface locations of your proposed activities been previously reviewed and approved by MMS?										Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
Tentative Schedule of Proposed Activities												
Proposed Activity						Start Date	End Date	No. of Days				
Drill, Complete, Test and Install a Well Protector Structure for Well Location A001						01-01-2006	01-20-2006	20 Days				
Drill, Complete, and Test Well Location A002						01-22-2006	02-11-2006	21 Days				
Drill, Complete, Test and Install a Well Protector Structure for Well Location B001						02-13-2006	03-04-2006	20 Days				
Drill, Complete, and Test Well Location B002						03-06-2006	03-25-2006	20 Days				
Description of Drilling Rig						Description of Production Platform						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jackup		Drillship		Caisson		Tension Leg Platform					
	Gorilla Jackup		Platform rig		Well protector		Compliant tower					
	Semi-submersible		Submersible		Fixed Platform		Guyed tower					
	DP Semi-submersible		Other (Attach description)		Subsea manifold		Floating production system					
Drilling Rig Name (if known):						Spar		Other (Attach Description)				
Description of Lease Term Pipelines												
From (Facility/Area/Block)				To (Facility/Area/Block)		Diameter (Feet)		Length (Feet)				
NA												



F-W OIL EXPLORATION L.L.C.
9821 Katy Freeway, Suite 1050
Houston, Texas 77024
Tel (713) 461-7221
Fax (713) 461-9396

October 28, 2005

U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394

Attention: Mr. Nick Wetzel
Plans Unit

RE: Initial Exploration Plan for Lease OCS-G 26431, South Padre Island Block 1133, OCS
Federal Waters, Gulf of Mexico, Offshore, Texas

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Title 30 CFR 250.203 and that certain Notice to Lessees (NTL 2003-G17), F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C. (F-W) hereby submits for your review and approval an Initial Exploration Plan (Plan) for Lease OCS-G 26431, South Padre Island Block 1133, Offshore, Texas. Excluded from the Public Information copies are certain geologic and geophysical discussions and attachments.

Enclosed are two Proprietary Information copies (one hard copy and one CD) and three Public Information copies (two hard copies and one CD) of the Plan.

Contingent upon receiving regulatory approvals and based on equipment and personnel availability, F-W anticipates operations under this Plan commencing as early as January 1, 2006.

Should additional information be required, please contact the undersigned, or our regulatory consultants, R.E.M. Solutions, Inc., Attention: Connie Goers or Kimberly Hicks at 281.492.8562.

Sincerely,

F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.

Mike Sholars
Operations Manager

MS:CJG:jkj
Attachments

Public Information

F-W OIL EXPLORATION L.L.C.

9821 Katy Freeway, Suite 1050
Houston, Texas 77024

Mike Sholars
msholars@fwoil.com

INITIAL EXPLORATION PLAN

LEASE OCS-G 26431

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND BLOCK 1133

PREPARED BY:

Kimberly Hicks
R.E.M. Solutions, Inc.
17171 Park Row, Suite 390
Houston, Texas 77084
281.492.8562 (Phone)
281.492.6117 (Fax)
kimberly@remsolutionsinc.com

DATED:

October 28, 2005

SECTION A

Plan Contents

A. Description, Objectives and Schedule

Lease OCS-G 26431, South Padre Island Block 1133 was acquired by F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C. at the Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale No. 192 held on August 18, 2004. The lease was issued with an effective date of November 1, 2004 and a primary term ending date of October 31, 2009.

The current lease operatorship and ownership are as follows:

Area/Block Lease No.	Operator	Ownership
South Padre Island Block 1133 Lease OCS-G 26431	F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.	F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.

F-W proposes to drill, potentially complete, test and install minimal well protector structures over Well Locations A001, A002, B001, and B002 in South Padre Island Block 1133. Information pertaining to the geological targets, including a narrative of trapping features, is included as *Attachment A-1*.

B. Location

Included as *Attachments A-2 through A-5* is Form MMS-137 "OCS Plan Information Form", well location plat, a bathymetry map detailing the proposed well surface location disturbance areas, and a typical elevation view of a well protector structure.

C. Drilling Unit

F-W will utilize a typical jack-up type drilling rig for the proposed drilling, potential completion, testing and installation of minimal well protector structure operations provided for in this Plan. Actual rig specifications will be included with the Applications for Permit to Drill.

Safety of personnel and protection of the environment during the proposed operations is of primary concern with F-W, and mandates regulatory compliance with the contractors and vendors associated with the proposed operations as follows:

Minerals Management Service regulations contained in Title 30 CFR Part 250, Subparts C, D, E, and O mandate the operations comply with well control, pollution prevention, construction and welding procedures as described in Title 30 CFR Part 250, Subparts C, D, E, and O; and as further clarified by MMS Notices to Lessees.

Minerals Management Service conducts periodic announced and unannounced onsite inspections of offshore facilities to confirm operators are complying with lease stipulations, operating regulations,

SECTION A

Plan Contents - Continued

approved plans, and other conditions; as well as to assure safety and pollution prevention requirements are being met.

The National Potential Incident of Noncompliance (PINC) List serves as the baseline for these inspections.

U. S. Coast Guard regulations contained in Title 33 CFR mandate the appropriate life rafts, life jackets, ring buoys, etc., be maintained on the facility at all times.

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations contained in the NPDES General Permit GMG290000 mandate that supervisory and certain designated personnel on-board the facility be familiar with the effluent limitations and guidelines for overboard discharges into the receiving waters.

Geological Targets and Trapping Features

**Attachment A-1
(Proprietary Information)**

OCS Plan Information Form

**Attachment A-2
(Public Information)**

OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM

General Information

Type of OCS Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration Plan (EP)		Development Operations Coordination Document (DOCD)
Company Name:	F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.		MMS Operation Number: 02566	
Address:	9821 Katy Freeway, Suite 1050		Contact Person: Kimberly Hicks at R.E.M. Solutions, Inc.	
	Houston, Texas 77024		Phone Number: 281.492.8562	
	E-Mail Address: kimberly@remolutionsinc.com			
Lease(s):	OCS-G 26431	Area: PS	Block(s): 1133	Project Name (If Applicable): NA
Objective(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Sulphur	<input type="checkbox"/> Salt
	Shorebase: Ingleside, Texas			Distance to Closest Land (Miles): 19

Description of Proposed Activities (Mark all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration drilling	<input type="checkbox"/>	Development drilling
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well completion	<input type="checkbox"/>	Installation of production platform
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Well test flaring (for more than 48 hours)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Installation of production facilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Installation of caisson or platform as well protection structure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Installation of satellite structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	Installation of subsea wellheads and/or manifolds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Commence production
<input type="checkbox"/>	Installation of lease term pipelines	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify and describe)
Have you submitted or do you plan to submit a Conservation Information Document to accompany this plan?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Do you propose to use new or unusual technology to conduct your activities?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Do you propose any facility that will serve as a host facility for deepwater subsea development?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Do you propose any activities that may disturb an MMS-designated high-probability archaeological area?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Have all of the surface locations of your proposed activities been previously reviewed and approved by MMS?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Tentative Schedule of Proposed Activities

Proposed Activity	Start Date	End Date	No. of Days
Drill, Complete, Test and Install a Well Protector Structure for Well Location A001	01-01-2006	01-20-2006	20 Days
Drill, Complete, Test and Install a Well Protector Structure for Well Location A002	01-22-2006	02-11-2006	21 Days
Drill, Complete, Test and Install a Well Protector Structure for Well Location B001	02-13-2006	03-04-2006	20 Days
Drill, Complete, Test and Install a Well Protector Structure for Well Location B002	03-06-2006	03-25-2006	20 Days

Description of Drilling Rig

Description of Production Platform

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jackup	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drillship	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caisson	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tension Leg Platform
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gorilla Jackup	<input type="checkbox"/>	Platform rig	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well protector	<input type="checkbox"/>	Compliant tower
<input type="checkbox"/>	Semi-submersible	<input type="checkbox"/>	Submersible	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fixed Platform	<input type="checkbox"/>	Guyed tower
<input type="checkbox"/>	DP Semi-submersible	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Attach description)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Subsea manifold	<input type="checkbox"/>	Floating production system
Drilling Rig Name (if known):				<input type="checkbox"/>	Spar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Attach Description)

Description of Lease Term Pipelines

From (Facility/Area/Block)	To (Facility/Area/Block)	Diameter (Feet)	Length (Feet)
NA			

OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM (CONTINUED)
Include one copy of this page for each proposed well/structure

Proposed Well/Structure Location					
Well or Structure Name/Number (If renaming well or structure, reference previous name): Well Location A001					Subsea Completion
Anchor Radius (if applicable) in feet: NA					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X <input type="checkbox"/> No
Surface Location			Bottom-Hole Location (For Wells)		
Lease No.	OCS-G 26431			OCS-G 26431	
Area Name	South Padre Island			South Padre Island	
Block No.	1133			1133	
Blockline Departures (in feet)	N/S Departure	4,000'	F S L	N/S Departure:	F _ L
	E/W Departure	6,580'	F E L	E/S Departure:	F _ L
Lambert X-Y coordinates	X: 2,531,395.32'			X:	
	Y: 179,149.75'			Y:	
Latitude/Longitude	Latitude: 26° 09' 00.543"			Latitude:	
	Longitude: -96° 52' 48.486"			Longitude:	
TVD (Feet):		MD (Feet):		Water Depth (Feet): 127'	
Anchor Locations for Drilling Rig or Construction Barge (If anchor radius supplied above, not necessary)					
Anchor Name or No.	Area	Block	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate	Length of Anchor Chain on Seafloor
NA			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
<p>Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires us to inform you that MMS collects this information as part of an applicant's Exploration Plan or Development Operations Coordination Document submitted for MMS approval. We use the information to facilitate our review and data entry for OCS plans. We will protect proprietary data according to the Freedom of Information Act and 30 CFR 250.196. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget Control Number. The use of this form is voluntary. The public reporting burden for this form is included in the burden for preparing Exploration Plans and Development Operations Coordination Documents. We estimate that burden to average 580 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Mail Stop 4230, Minerals Management Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20240.</p>					

OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM (CONTINUED)
Include one copy of this page for each proposed well/structure

Proposed Well/Structure Location								
Well or Structure Name/Number (If renaming well or structure, reference previous name): Well Location A002					Subsea Completion			
Anchor Radius (if applicable) in feet: NA					<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Yes</td> <td>X</td> <td>No</td> </tr> </table>	Yes	X	No
Yes	X	No						
Surface Location			Bottom-Hole Location (For Wells)					
Lease No:	OCS-G 26431		OCS-G 26431					
Area Name	South Padre Island		South Padre Island					
Block No.	1133		1133					
Blockline Departures (in feet)	N/S Departure	4,000'	F S L	N/S Departure:	F _ L			
	E/W Departure	6,580'	F E L	E/S Departure:	F _ L			
Lambert X-Y coordinates	X: 2,531,395.32'		X:					
	Y: 179,149.75'		Y:					
Latitude/Longitude	Latitude: 26° 09' 00.543"		Latitude:					
	Longitude: -96° 52' 48.486"		Longitude:					
TVD (Feet):		MD (Feet):		Water Depth (Feet): 127'				
Anchor Locations for Drilling Rig or Construction Barge (If anchor radius supplied above, not necessary)								
Anchor Name or No.	Area	Block	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate	Length of Anchor Chain on Seafloor			
NA			X=	Y=				
			X=	Y=				
			X=	Y=				
			X=	Y=				
			X=	Y=				
			X=	Y=				
			X=	Y=				
			X=	Y=				
<p>Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires us to inform you that MMS collects this information as part of an applicant's Exploration Plan or Development Operations Coordination Document submitted for MMS approval. We use the information to facilitate our review and data entry for OCS plans. We will protect proprietary data according to the Freedom of Information Act and 30 CFR 250.196. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget Control Number. The use of this form is voluntary. The public reporting burden for this form is included in the burden for preparing Exploration Plans and Development Operations Coordination Documents. We estimate that burden to average 580 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Mail Stop 4230, Minerals Management Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20240.</p>								

OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM (CONTINUED)
Include one copy of this page for each proposed well/structure

Proposed Well/Structure Location					
Well or Structure Name/Number (If renaming well or structure, reference previous name): Well Location B001					Subsea Completion
Anchor Radius (if applicable) in feet: NA					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X <input type="checkbox"/> No
Surface Location			Bottom-Hole Location (For Wells)		
Lease No.	OCS-G 26431			OCS-G 26431	
Area Name	South Padre Island			South Padre Island	
Block No.	1133			1133	
Blockline Departures (in feet)	N/S Departure	6,250'	F S L	N/S Departure:	F _ L
	E/W Departure	8,050'	F W L	E/S Departure:	F _ L
Lambert X-Y coordinates	X: 2,530,185.32'			X:	
	Y: 181,399.75'			Y:	
Latitude/Longitude	Latitude: 26° 09'22.980"			Latitude:	
	Longitude: -96° 53' 01.447"			Longitude:	
TVD (Feet):			MD (Feet):		Water Depth (Feet): 126'
Anchor Locations for Drilling Rig or Construction Barge (If anchor radius supplied above, not necessary)					
Anchor Name or No.	Area	Block	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate	Length of Anchor Chain on Seafloor
NA			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
<p>Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires us to inform you that MMS collects this information as part of an applicant's Exploration Plan or Development Operations Coordination Document submitted for MMS approval. We use the information to facilitate our review and data entry for OCS plans. We will protect proprietary data according to the Freedom of Information Act and 30 CFR 250.196. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget Control Number. The use of this form is voluntary. The public reporting burden for this form is included in the burden for preparing Exploration Plans and Development Operations Coordination Documents. We estimate that burden to average 580 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Mail Stop 4230, Minerals Management Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20240.</p>					

OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM (CONTINUED)
Include one copy of this page for each proposed well/structure

Proposed Well/Structure Location					
Well or Structure Name/Number (If renaming well or structure, reference previous name): Well Location B002					Subsea Completion
Anchor Radius (if applicable) in feet: NA					<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X <input type="checkbox"/> No
Surface Location			Bottom-Hole Location (For Wells)		
Lease No.	OCS-G 26431		OCS-G 26431		
Area Name	South Padre Island		South Padre Island		
Block No.	1133		1133		
Blockline Departures (in feet)	N/S Departure	6,250'	F S L	N/S Departure:	F _ L
	E/W Departure	8,050'	F W L	E/S Departure:	F _ L
Lambert X-Y coordinates	X: 2,530,185.32'		X:		
	Y: 181,399.75'		Y:		
Latitude/Longitude	Latitude: 26° 09' 22.980"		Latitude:		
	Longitude: -96° 53' 01.447"		Longitude:		
TVD (Feet):		MD (Feet):		Water Depth (Feet): 126'	
Anchor Locations for Drilling Rig or Construction Barge (If anchor radius supplied above, not necessary)					
Anchor Name or No.	Area	Block	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate	Length of Anchor Chain on Seafloor
NA			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
			X=	Y=	
<p>Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires us to inform you that MMS collects this information as part of an applicant's Exploration Plan or Development Operations Coordination Document submitted for MMS approval. We use the information to facilitate our review and data entry for OCS plans. We will protect proprietary data according to the Freedom of Information Act and 30 CFR 250.196. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget Control Number. The use of this form is voluntary. The public reporting burden for this form is included in the burden for preparing Exploration Plans and Development Operations Coordination Documents. We estimate that burden to average 580 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Mail Stop 4230, Minerals Management Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20240.</p>					

Well Location Plat

**Attachment A-3
(Public Information)**

PROPOSED LOCATIONS

LOCATION	CALLNS	CALLEW	X COORDINATE	Y COORDINATE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	WD	TVD	MD
A1 SURF	4,000.00' FSL	6,580.00' FEL	2,531,395.32'	179,149.75'	26° 09' 00.543"N	96° 52' 48.486"W	127'		3,000'
A2 SURF	4,000.00' FSL	6,580.00' FEL	2,531,395.32'	179,149.75'	26° 09' 00.543"N	96° 52' 48.486"W	127'		3,000'
B1 SURF	6,250.00' FSL	8,050.00' FWL	2,530,185.32'	181,399.75'	26° 09' 22.980"N	96° 53' 01.447"W	126'		3,000'
B2 SURF	6,250.00' FSL	8,050.00' FWL	2,530,185.32'	181,399.75'	26° 09' 22.980"N	96° 53' 01.447"W	126'		3,000'

CITIES
 ○ 1
 G07131

PS1133
 OCS-G-26431
 F-W Oil

○ B1, B2 SURF

○ A1, A2 SURF

GRID NORTH

**PUBLIC
 INFORMATION**



F-W OIL EXPLORATION, L.L.C.

**EXPLORATION PLAN
 OCS-G-26431**

BLOCK 1133
 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND AREA
 GULF OF MEXICO

FUGRO CHANCE INC.



200 Dulles Dr. Lafayette, Louisiana 70506-5001 (337) 237-1300

GEODETIC DATUM: NAD27
 PROJECTION: TEXAS SOUTH
 GRID UNITS: US SURVEY FEET

SCALE 0 2,000'
 IN FEET

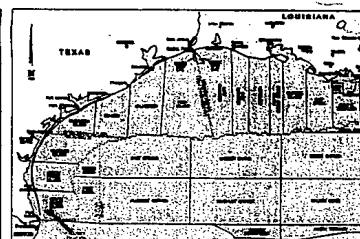
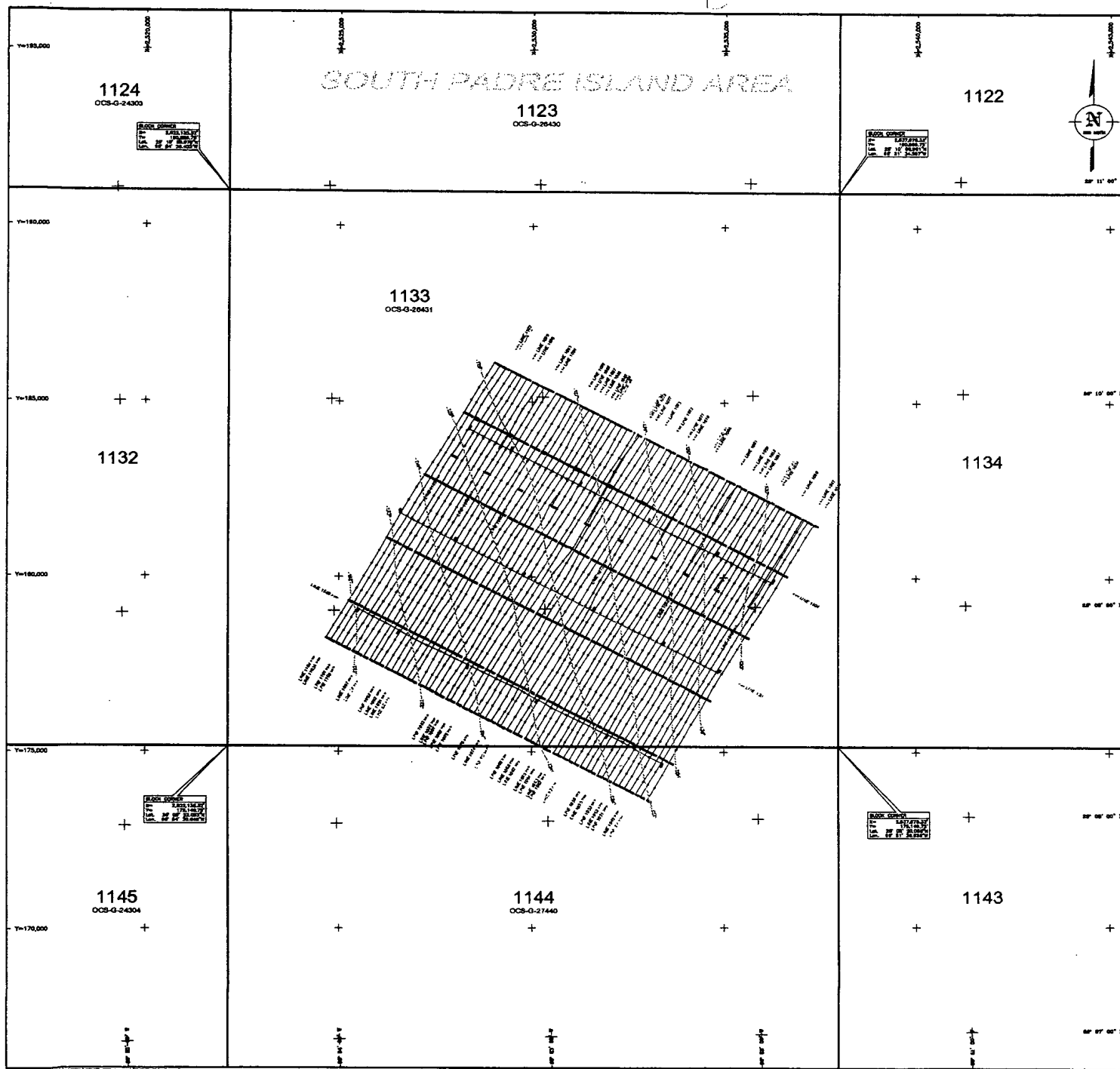
Job No.: 05-3871 Date: 10/11/05 Drwn: TCG Chart: Of: 1 1

Printed: 10/11/05

Dwgfile: O:\WellPermit\TXa\PS\Permit\1133ep

Bathymetry Map

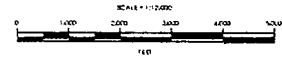
Attachment A-4
(Public Information)



LEGEND

SHOT POINT & SHOT POINT NO. (2003 SURVEY)
 SHOT POINT & SHOT POINT NO. (2004 SURVEY)
 CONTOUR INTERVAL = 1
 BED DATUM = MEAN LOW TIDE WATER
 APPLIED ACROSS C VELOCITY = PARABOLIC KEYS
 AVERAGE FOR BLOCK 1133:
 MEAN LOW TIDE WATER = 0.0
 MEAN SEA LEVEL = -0.5
 MEAN HIGH TIDE = 1.5

ORIGINATOR: BATHYMETRY MAP	ORIGINATOR: BATHYMETRY MAP
DATE: 01/11/2005	DATE: 01/11/2005
PROJECT: BATHYMETRY MAP	PROJECT: BATHYMETRY MAP
SCALE: 1:12,000	SCALE: 1:12,000



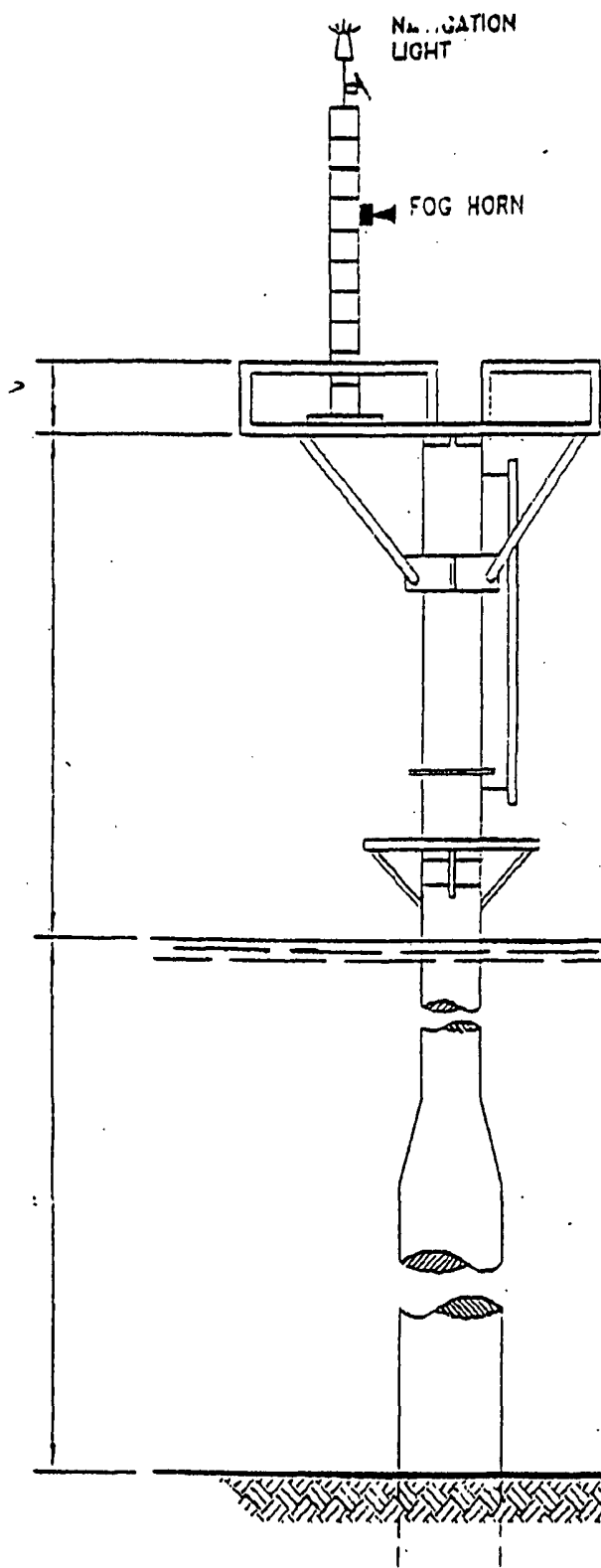
F-W OIL EXPLORATION, L.L.C.

BATHYMETRY MAP
 OCS-G-26431
 BLOCK 1133
 SOUTH PADRE ISLAND AREA

SURVEY DATE: MARCH 10, 2005	SURVEY DATE: MARCH 10, 2005
SURVEY VESSEL: R/V LATELITE	SURVEY VESSEL: R/V LATELITE
INTERVIEWED BY: J. J. JAMES	INTERVIEWED BY: J. J. JAMES
DATE: 01/11/2005	DATE: 01/11/2005
SCALE: 1:12,000	SCALE: 1:12,000

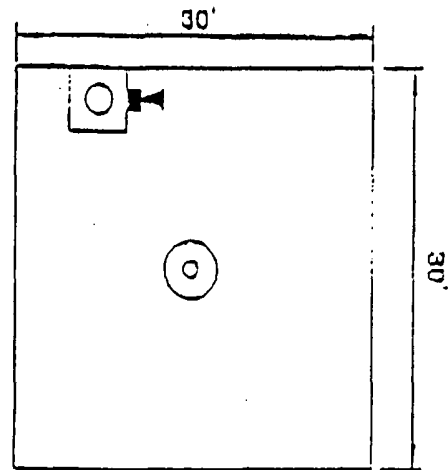
Structure Elevation Drawing

**Attachment A-5
(Public Information)**



Note:

Structures shall be marked/lighted in accordance with U.S. Coast Guard Regulations.



TYPICAL CAISSON WELL PROTECTOR

SECTION B

General Information

A. Contact

Questions or requests for additional information should be made to F-W's authorized representative for this project:

Kimberly Hicks
R.E.M. Solutions, Inc.
17171 Park Row, Suite 390
Houston, Texas 77084
281.492.8562 (Phone)
281.492.6117 (Fax)
kimberly@remolutionsinc.com

B. Prospect Name

F-W does not refer to prospect names for their exploratory activities.

C. New or Unusual Technology

F-W does not propose using any new and/or unusual technology for the operations proposed in this Plan.

D. Bonding Information

In accordance with Title 30 CFR Part 256, Subpart I, F-W elected and has on file with the Minerals Management Service Gulf of Mexico Regional Office a \$3,000,000 Areawide Development Bond.

As deemed warranted, Minerals Management Service will contact the designated operator in the event a supplemental bond is required for the proposed operations, as outlined in Notice to Lessees (NTL) 2003-N06 to cover plugging liability of the wellbores, removal of associated well protector structures and site clearance.

F-W is on the exempt list with the Minerals Management Service for supplemental bonding.

E. Onshore Base and Support Vessels

The proposed surface disturbances in South Padre Island Block 1133 will be located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline, and approximately 120 miles from the onshore support base to be located in Ingleside, Texas.

SECTION B

General Information - Continued

F-W will use an existing onshore base to accomplish the following routine operations:

- Loading/Offloading point for equipment supporting the offshore operations,
- Dispatching personnel and equipment, and does not anticipate the need for any expansion of the selected facilities as a result of the activities proposed in this Plan,
- Temporary storage for materials and equipment
- 24-Hour Dispatcher

Personnel involved in the proposed operations will typically use their own vehicles as transportation to and from the selected onshore base; whereas the selected vendors will transport the equipment by a combination of trucks, boats and/or helicopters to the onshore base. The personnel and equipment will then be transported to the drilling rig via the transportation methods and frequencies shown below, taking the most direct route feasible as mandated by weather and traffic conditions:

Support Vessel	Drilling and Completion Trips Per Week
Crew Boat	7
Supply Boat	4
Helicopter	0

The proposed operations are temporary in nature and do not require any immediate action to acquire additional land, expand existing base facilities.

A Vicinity Plat showing the proposed surface locations in South Padre Island Block 1133 relative to the shoreline and onshore base is included as *Attachment B-1*.

F. Lease Stipulations

Under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, the Minerals Management Service is charged with the responsibility of managing and regulating the exploration and development on the OCS.

As part of the regulatory process, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is prepared for each lease sale, at which time mitigation measures are addressed in the form of lease stipulations, which then become part of the oil and gas lease terms and are therefore enforceable as part of that lease.

As part of this process, the designated operator proposing to conduct related exploratory and development activities, must review the applicable lease stipulations, as well as other special conditions, which may be imposed by the Minerals Management Service, and other governing agencies.

SECTION B

General Information - Continued

Lease OCS-G 26431, South Padre Island Block 1133 is subject to the following such stipulation and conditions:

Military Warning Area

The hold and save harmless section of the Military Areas Stipulation serves to protect the U.S. Government from liability in the event of an accident involving the designated oil and gas lease operator and military activities.

The electromagnetic emissions section of the stipulation requires the operator and its agents to reduce and curtail the use of radio or other equipment emitting electromagnetic energy within some areas.

This serves to reduce the impact of oil and gas activity on the communications of military missions and reduces the possible effects of electromagnetic energy transmissions on missile testing, tracking, and detonation.

The operational section requires notification to the military of oil and gas activity to take place within a military use area. This allows the base commander to plan military missions and maneuvers that may avoid the areas where oil and gas activities are taking place or to schedule around these activities. Prior notification helps reduce the potential impacts associated with vessels and helicopters traveling unannounced through areas where military activities are underway.

The Military Areas Stipulation reduces potential impacts, particularly in regards to safety, but does not reduce or eliminate the actual physical presence of oil and gas operations in areas where military operations are conducted.

The reduction in potential impacts resulting from this stipulation makes multiple-use conflicts most unlikely. Without the stipulation, some potential conflict is likely. The best indicator of the overall effectiveness of the stipulation may be that there has never been an accident involving a conflict between military operations and oil and gas activities.

The proposed surface disturbance in South Padre Island Block 1133 is located within Military Warning Area W-228D. Therefore, in accordance with the requirements of the referenced stipulation, F-W will contact the Chief, Naval Air Training Attn: Code N332 (ATC & Space Management) in order to coordinate and control the electromagnetic emissions during the proposed operations.

SECTION B

General Information - Continued

Marine Protected Species

Lease Stipulation No. 6 is to reference measures to minimize or avoid potential adverse impacts to protected species (sea turtles, marine mammals, gulf sturgeon, and other federally protected species).

MMS has issued Notice to Lessees NTL 2004-G01 "Implementation of Seismic Mitigation Measures and Protected Species Observer Program", NTL 2003-G10 "Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured/Dead Protected Species Reporting" and NTL 2003-G11 "Marine Trash and Debris Awareness and Elimination".

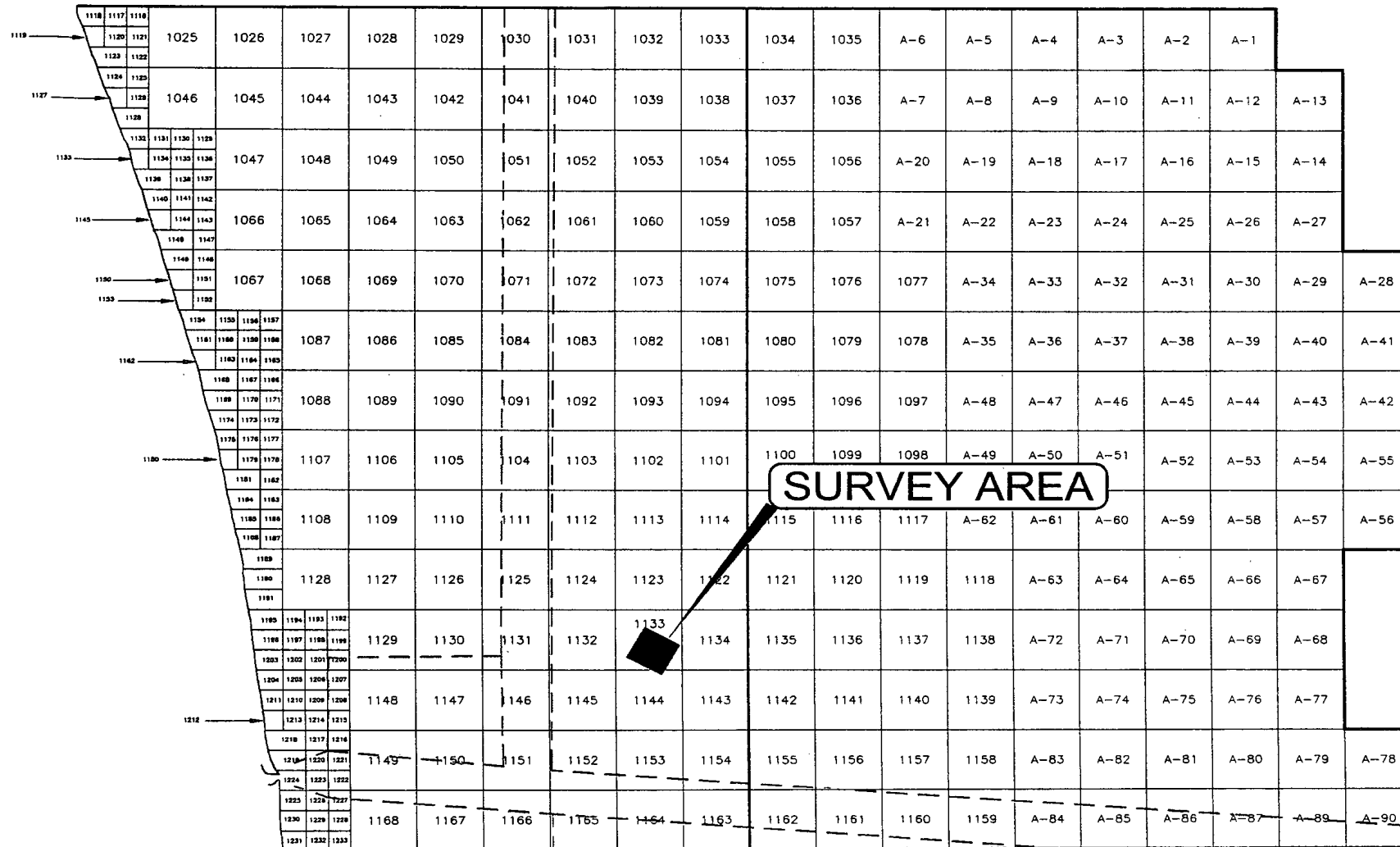
Special Conditions

The proposed surface disturbance activities in South Padre Island Block 1133 will not be affected by any special conditions and/or multiple uses, such as designated shipping/anchorage areas, lightering zones, rigs-to-reef zone, and ordnance disposal zones.

Vicinity Plat

**Attachment B-1
(Public Information)**

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND AREA



VICINITY MAP

SECTION C

Geological, Geophysical & H2S Information

A. Structure Contour Maps

Included as *Attachment C-1* is a current structure map (depth base and expressed in feet subsea) depicting the entire lease coverage area; drawn on the top of each prospective hydrocarbon sand. The map depicts each proposed bottom hole location and applicable geological cross section.

B. Interpreted Deep Seismic Lines

Included as *Attachment C-2*, (original copy only,) are page size copies of the migrated and annotated (shot point, time lines, well paths) of the deep seismic line within 500 feet of the surface locations.

C. Geological Structure Cross Sections

An interpreted geological cross section depicting the proposed well locations and depth of the proposed wells is included as *Attachment C-3*. Such cross section corresponds to each seismic line being submitted under separate cover.

D. Shallow Hazards Report

Fugro Geoservices, Inc. conducted a high resolution geophysical survey in South Padre Island Block 1133 during October 2005 on behalf of F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C. The purpose of the survey was to evaluate geologic conditions and inspect for potential hazards or constraints to lease development.

Copies of these reports are being submitted to the Minerals Management Service under separate cover.

E. Shallow Hazards Assessment

A shallow hazards analysis has been prepared for the proposed surface locations, evaluating seafloor and subsurface geologic and manmade features and conditions, and is included as *Attachment C-4*.

F. High Resolution Seismic Lines

Included, as *Attachment C-5* to the original copy only, is a copy of the annotated high resolution survey data lines for each surface location disturbance proposed in this Plan.

SECTION C

Geological, Geophysical & H2S Information-Continued

G. Stratigraphic Column

A generalized biostratigraphic/lithostratigraphic column from the seafloor to the total depth of the proposed wells is included as *Attachment C-6*.

H. Time Vs. Depth Tables

F-W has determined that there is existing sufficient well control data for the target areas proposed in this plan; therefore, tables providing seismic time versus depth for the proposed well locations are not required.

I. Hydrogen Sulfide Classification

In accordance with Title 30 CFR 250.490, F-W requests that South Padre Island Block 1133 be classified by the Minerals Management Service as an area where the absence of hydrogen sulfide has been confirmed based on the following well which was drilled to the stratigraphic equivalent of the wells proposed in this Plan:

<i>Lease</i>	<i>Area/Block</i>	<i>Well No.</i>	<i>Stratigraphic Equivalent</i>

Structure Maps

**Attachment C-1
(Proprietary Information)**

Deep Seismic Lines

Attachment C-2
(Proprietary Information)

Cross Section Maps

**Attachment C-3
(Proprietary Information)**

Shallow Hazards Assessment

**Attachment C-4
(Public Information)**



October 12, 2005

200 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506
Main: 337-237-2636
Fax: 337-268-3221

F-W Oil Exploration LLC
9821 Katy Freeway, Suite 1050
Houston, Texas 77024

Attention: Doug Nester

**Re: Exploration Plan – Site Clearance Letter
Proposed "A-1 & A-2" Well Surface Location
Block 1133, South Padre Island Area (OCS-G-26431)
Job No. 2405-1177_South**

Fugro GeoServices, Inc. was contracted by F-W Oil Exploration, LLC to assess seafloor and subbottom conditions at the proposed "A-1 & A-2" well surface location in Block 1133, South Padre Island Area (PS). The survey area lies within the Texas South coordinate system. This letter is intended to address specific seafloor and subbottom conditions within 1,000 feet of the location. The proposed surface location has been projected on the Bathymetry Map, Archaeological and Hazard Map, and Amplitude Anomaly Map from the original 2005 report.

Introduction

NTL-98-20 and NTL-2003-G17 stipulate that analysis of potential cultural resources and hazards for Exploration Plans (EP's) may be made from available geophysical and geological data. The proposed surface location is located within coverage provided by a recent geophysical survey with coverage over several blocks, including all of PS1133. An Archaeological and Hazard Assessment of the geophysical data in the vicinity of the proposed well has been performed by Fugro GeoServices, Inc. (FGSI) dated October of 2005.

The 2004 and 2005 Survey data was acquired aboard the *R/V L'Arpenteur* during March 10 & 31, April 1 & 4, 2004, and July 14, 15, 28-31, August 1, 3-9, 12, & 13, 2005. Horizontal positioning of the survey vessel was accomplished with the FUGRO STARFIX® Differential Global Positioning System, which has a field accuracy of ± 3 meters. The geophysical instrumentation included an Odom Echotrac DF-3200 MKII bathymetric system, Sea Spy GEM GSM-19 MD marine magnetometer, O.R.E. Model 140 3.5 kHz subbottom profiler, 500 kHz EdgeTech 260-TH side scan sonar, and 150 cubic inch G.I. Air Gun Profiler with an Geospace GeoRes Digital Recording System. Water column velocity data were gathered with the SeaCat SBE 19-01 velocimeter probe.

The survey grid consisted of sixty-nine (69) northeast-southwest primary tracklines spaced 50 meters (~164 feet) apart and three (3) southeast-northwest tielines spaced 900 meters (~2,953 feet) apart. The tracklines on the enclosed maps have been color-coded to distinguish between the surveys in 2004 and 2005. Specifications published by the USDI MMS for hazard and cultural resources surveys were met. Daniel A. Ruberg managed the interpretation and preparation of the shallow hazards report and Ted Hampton managed the survey's archaeological evaluation.

All aspects of the survey and this Exploration Plan follow current Minerals Management Service Guidelines. The following hazard and cultural resources analysis was determined from the prior interpretations and related maps, tables, and figures. F-W Oil Exploration, LLC proposes to drill the "A-1 & A-2", well at the same surface location within the southeast quadrant of PS1133.





6,580' FEL, 4,000' FSL
X = 2,531,395.32', Y = 179,149.75'
Latitude: 26° 09' 00.543"N, Longitude: 96° 52' 48.486"W

Geological Interpretation

- ◆ Harmonic mean velocities were calculated from the velocimeter readings acquired during the survey and were applied to each datum in order to convert record time to feet below sea level. Tidal adjustments based on predicted tides for the Padre Island (South End), Texas tidal station were also utilized to adjust the bathymetric reading to the Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) tide level for the area. The water depth at the proposed location is -126.5 feet MLLW.
- ◆ Bathymetric contours indicate a smooth seafloor that slopes down to the east at a gradient of 4 feet per mile (0.04°).
- ◆ The side scan sonar records exhibit a predominantly smooth seafloor of low to moderate reflectivity across the survey area.
- ◆ Seafloor sediments are reported to be silty clay (Minerals Management Service, Visual No. 3, 1983). Seafloor cores (max 10 ft penetration) collected in nearby blocks consist of very soft, olive gray clay at the seafloor with sand pockets or seams, organics, and shell fragments.
- ◆ No current or historic infrastructure is reported to be or have been located within 1,000 feet of the proposed well location.
- ◆ Two unidentified magnetic anomalies, numbers 12 and 14 plot ~400 feet to the southeast and ~925 to the southwest consecutively of the proposed location. The anomalies registered 15 and 56 gammas with duration of 137 and 100 feet, considered small to moderate in amplitude and duration. Caution should be exercised when working in the vicinity of the anomalies although no magnetic anomaly clustering or sonar targets confirmed their potential source.
- ◆ There were no side scan sonar contacts noted within 1,000 feet of the proposed surface location.
- ◆ The survey area contains some buried channel features. The channel boundaries represent locations where relative stability could be less than surrounding areas and sites selected for seafloor based structures (i.e. jack-up rigs) should be located totally within or outside the horizontal limits of the buried channels. Channel boundaries are interpreted ~200 feet to the southeast and ~375 feet to the northwest, caution should be exercised if operating seafloor based structures in these areas.
- ◆ An amplitude anomaly (probable bright spot) exists beneath the well location at a depth of 200-300 milliseconds below the seafloor.
- ◆ No faulting was noted within 1,000 feet of the well site.

Archeological Assessment

- ◆ The evaluation of the high-resolution geophysical survey data from a survey conducted over Block 1133, South Padre Island Area indicates the margins of the buried channels downcutting from the Late Wisconsin unconformity 2 to 4 feet below the seafloor have been extensively eroded and would not provide a high probability environment for *in situ* prehistoric materials. The interior features of the channels were poorly imaged due to sediment composition and possible gas content. There were no landforms identified within the survey area that could be considered as high probability areas for prehistoric occupation.
- ◆ The area is clear of unidentified magnetic anomalies or side scan sonar contacts indicative of shipwrecks. However, it is possible that historic shipwreck materials may not be detected by the geophysical instruments or may be obscured by modern debris. If wooden planking or other cultural materials that could represent shipwreck remains are encountered, the USDI MMS archaeologists should be contacted to provide an assessment of these artifacts.





Conclusions

Based on the previous interpretation, the proposed "A-1 & A-2" surface location is clear of any debris or obstacles to drilling activities. Caution should be excised when working within the vicinity of the channel boundaries and unidentified magnetic anomalies. For additional information, please refer to the 2005 Archaeological and Hazard Survey Report.

Thank you, and please call if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel A. Ruberg".

Daniel A. Ruberg
Project Geologist

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ted Hampton".

Ted Hampton
Marine Archaeologist





October 12, 2005

200 Dulles Drive
Lafayette, LA 70506
Main: 337-237-2636
Fax: 337-268-3221

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All aspects of the survey and this Exploration Plan follow current Minerals Management Service Guidelines. The following hazard and cultural resources analysis was determined from the prior interpretations and related maps, tables, and figures. F-W Oil Exploration, LLC proposes to drill the "B-1 & B-2", well at the same surface location within the southeast quadrant of PS1133.



8,050' FWL, 6,250' FSL
X = 2,530,185.32', Y = 181,399.75'
Latitude: 26° 09' 22.980"N, Longitude: 96° 53' 01.447"W

Geological Interpretation

- ◆ Harmonic mean velocities were calculated from the velocimeter readings acquired during the survey and were applied to each datum in order to convert record time to feet below sea level. Tidal adjustments based on predicted tides for the Padre Island (South End), Texas tidal station were also utilized to adjust the bathymetric reading to the Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) tide level for the area. The water depth at the proposed location is -126 feet MLLW.
- ◆ Bathymetric contours indicate a smooth seafloor that slopes down to the east at a gradient of 4 feet per mile (0.04°).
- ◆ The side scan sonar records exhibit a predominantly smooth seafloor of low to moderate reflectivity across the survey area.
- ◆ Seafloor sediments are reported to be silty clay (Minerals Management Service, Visual No. 3, 1983). Seafloor cores (max 10 ft penetration) collected in nearby blocks consist of very soft, olive gray clay at the seafloor with sand pockets or seams, organics, and shell fragments.
- ◆ No current or historic infrastructure is reported to be or have been located within 1,000 feet of the proposed well location.
- ◆ Three unidentified magnetic anomalies, numbers 4, 18, and 21 plot ~975 feet to the southwest, ~350 feet to the south-southeast, and ~800 feet to the northwest consecutively of the proposed location. The anomalies registered 83, 11, and 14 gammas with duration of 212, 100, and 117 feet, considered small to moderate in amplitude and duration. Caution should be exercised when working in the vicinity of the anomalies although no magnetic anomaly clustering or sonar targets confirmed their potential source.
- ◆ There are no side scan sonar contacts noted within 1,000 feet of the proposed surface location.
- ◆ The survey area contains some buried channel features. The channel boundaries represent locations where relative stability could be less than surrounding areas and sites selected for seafloor based structures (i.e. jack-up rigs) should be located totally within or outside the horizontal limits of the buried channels. Channel boundaries are interpreted ~325 feet to the southeast and ~375 feet to the northwest, caution should be exercised if operating seafloor based structures in these areas.
- ◆ An amplitude anomaly (probable bright spot) exists beneath the well location at a depth of 200-300 milliseconds below the seafloor.
- ◆ One normal fault, down to the northeast and buried at a depth of 150' below seafloor plots ~600' northeast of the proposed location.

Archaeological Assessment

- ◆ The evaluation of the high-resolution geophysical survey data from a survey conducted over Block 1133, South Padre Island Area indicates the margins of the buried channels downcutting from the Late Wisconsin unconformity 2 to 4 feet below the seafloor have been extensively eroded and would not provide a high probability environment for *in situ* prehistoric materials. The interior features of the channels were poorly imaged due to sediment composition and possible gas content. There were no landforms identified within the survey area that could be considered as high probability areas for prehistoric occupation.
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Conclusions

Based on the previous interpretation, the proposed "B-1 & B-2" surface location is clear of any debris or obstacles to drilling activities. Caution should be exercised when working within the vicinity of the channel boundaries and unidentified magnetic anomalies. For additional information, please refer to the 2005 Archaeological and Hazard survey report.

Thank you, and please call if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

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Daniel A. Ruberg
Project Geologist

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Ted Hampton
Marine Archaeologist



Shallow Hazards Lines

**Attachment C-5
(Proprietary Information)**

Stratigraphic Column

Attachment C-6
(Proprietary Information)

SECTION D

Biological and Physical Information

A. Chemosynthetic Information

The proposed seafloor disturbing activities are in water depths less than 400 meters (1312 feet); therefore, this section of the Plan is not applicable.

B. Topographic Features Information

MMS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) have entered into a programmatic consultation agreement for Essential Fish Habitat that requires that no bottom disturbing activities, including anchors or cables from a semi-submersible drilling rig, may occur within 500 feet of the no-activity zone of a topographic feature. If such proposed bottom disturbing activities are within 500 feet of a no activity zone, the MMS is required to consult with the NMFS.

The activities proposed in this Plan are not affected by a topographic feature.

C. Live Bottom (Pinnacle Trend) Information

Certain leases are located in areas characterized by the existence of live bottoms. Live bottom areas are defined as seagrass communities; those areas that contain biological assemblages consisting of sessile invertebrates living upon and attached to naturally occurring hard or rocky formations with rough, broken, or smooth topography; and areas where the lithotope favors the accumulation of turtles, fishes, or other fauna. These leases contain a Live Bottom Stipulation to ensure that impacts from nearby oil and gas activities on these live bottom areas are mitigated to the greatest extent possible.

For each affected lease, the Live Bottom Stipulation requires that you prepare a live bottom survey report containing a bathymetry map prepared by using remote sensing techniques. This report must be submitted to the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (GOMR) before you may conduct any drilling activities or install any structure, including lease term pipelines in accordance with NTL 99-G16.

South Padre Island Block 1133 is not located within the vicinity of a proposed live bottom area.

D. Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV Surveys)

Pursuant to NTL No. 2003-G03, operators may be required to conduct remote operated vehicle (ROV) surveys during pre-spudding and post-drilling operations for the purpose of biological and physical observations.

South Padre Island Block 1133 is not located within an area where ROV Surveys are required.

SECTION D
Biological and Physical Information-Continued

E. Archaeological Reports

In conjunction with this geophysical survey, an archaeological survey and report was also prepared to comply with the requirements of NTL 2005,G07, as South Padre Island Block 1133 is located within a high probability pre-historic area for potential archaeological resources.

This requirement provides protection of prehistoric and historic archaeological resources by requiring remote sensing surveys in areas designated to have a high probability for archaeological resources.

The archaeological report is included in the Shallow Hazards Report being submitted under separate cover to the Minerals Management Service.

SECTION E

Wastes and Discharge/Disposal Information

The Minerals Management Service (MMS), U. S. Coast Guard (USCG) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulate the overboard discharge and/or disposal of operational waste associated with drilling, completing, testing and/or production operations from oil and gas exploration and production activities.

Minerals Management Service regulations contained in Title 30 CFR 250.300 require operators to "prevent the unauthorized discharge of pollutants into offshore waters". These same regulations prohibit the intentional disposal of "equipment, cables, chains, containers, or other materials" offshore. Small items must be stored and transported in clearly marked containers and large objects must be individually marked. Additionally, items lost overboard must be recorded in the facility's daily log and reported to MMS as appropriate.

U. S. Coast Guard regulations implement the Marine Pollution Research and Control Act (MARPOL) of 1987 requiring manned offshore rigs, platforms and associated vessels prohibit the dumping of all forms of solid waste at sea with the single exception of ground food wastes, which can be discharged if the facility is beyond 12 nautical miles from the nearest shore. This disposal ban covers all forms of solid waste including plastics, packing material, paper, glass, metal, and other refuse. These regulations also require preparation, monitoring and record keeping requirements for garbage generated on board these facilities. The drilling contractor must maintain a Waste Management Plan, in addition to preparation of a Daily Garbage Log for the handling of these types of waste. MODU's are equipped with bins for temporary storage of certain garbage. Other types of waste, such as food, may be discharged overboard if the discharge can pass through 25-millimeter type mesh screen. Prior to off loading and/or overboard disposal, an entry will be made in the Daily Garbage Log stating the approximate volume, the date of action, name of the vessel, and destination point.

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations address the disposal of oil and gas operational wastes under three Federal Acts. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) which provides a framework for the safe disposal of discarded materials, regulating the management of solid and hazardous wastes. The direct disposal of operational wastes into offshore waters is limited under the authority of the Clean Water Act. And, when injected underground, oil and gas operational wastes are regulated by the Underground Injection Control program. If any wastes are classified as hazardous, they are to be properly transported using a uniform hazardous waste manifest, documented, and disposed at an approved hazardous waste facility.

A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, based on effluent limitation guidelines, is required for any discharges into offshore waters. F-W Oil has requested coverage under the Region VI NPDES General Permit GMG290000 for discharges associated with exploration and development activities in South Padre Island Block 1133 and will take applicable steps to ensure all offshore discharges associated with the proposed operations will be conducted in accordance with the permit.

SECTION E

Wastes and Discharge/Disposal Information-Continued

A. Composition of Solid and Liquid Wastes

The major operational solid waste in the largest quantities generated from the proposed operations will be the drill cuttings, drilling and/or completion fluids. Other associated wastes include waste chemicals, cement wastes, sanitary and domestic waste, trash and debris, ballast water, storage displacement water, rig wash and deck drainage, hydraulic fluids, used oil, oily water and filters, and other miscellaneous minor discharges.

These wastes are generated into categories, being solid waste (trash and debris), nonhazardous oilfield waste (drilling fluids, nonhazardous waste including cement and oil filters), and hazardous wastes (waste paint or thinners).

The type of discharges included in this permit application allow for the following effluents to be discharged overboard, subject to certain limitations, prohibitions and recordkeeping requirements.

Overboard Discharges

The wastes detailed in *Attachment E-1* are those wastes generated by our proposed activities and released into the receiving waters of the Gulf of Mexico at the associated well location.

Disposed Wastes

The wastes detailed in *Attachment E-2* are those wastes generated by our proposed activities that are disposed of by means of offsite release, injection, encapsulation, or placement at either onshore or offshore permitted locations for the purpose of returning them back to the environment.

F-W will manifest these wastes prior to being offloaded from the MODU, and transported to shore for disposal at approved sites regulated by the applicable State. Additionally, F-W will comply with any approvals or reporting and recordkeeping requirements imposed by the State where ultimate disposal will occur.

Waste & Discharge Tables

Attachment E-1
(Public Information)

F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.
South Padre Island Block 1133
Examples of Wastes and Discharges Information

Table 1. Discharges Table (Wastes to be discharged overboard)

Type of Waste Approximate Composition	Amount to be Discharged (volume or rate)	Maximum Discharge Rate	Treatment and/or Storage, Discharge Location*, And Discharge Method
Water-based drilling fluids	7,800 bbl/well	200 bbl/hr	South Padre Island Block 1133 Overboard
Drill cuttings associated with water-based fluids	2,000 bbl/well	1,000 bbl/hr	South Padre Island Block 1133 Overboard
Muds, cuttings and cement at the seafloor	Gel – 5,000 bbl WBM – 8,000 bbl Cuttings – 20,000 bbl Seawater and caustic – 4,800 bbl	Not applicable	South Padre Island Block 1133 Overboard
Sanitary wastes	20 gal/person/day	Not applicable	South Padre Island Block 1133 Chlorinate and discharge
Domestic wastes	30 gal/person/day	Not applicable	South Padre Island Block 1133 Remove floating solids and discharge
Deck Drainage	0-4,000 bbl/day Dependant upon rainfall	15 bbl per hour (maximum separator discharge)	South Padre Island Block 1133 Treat for oil and grease and discharge
Well treatment, workover or completion fluids	Workover – 300 bbl/well Treatment – 250 bbl/well Completion – 300 bbl/well	200 bbl/well/every 4 years	South Padre Island Block 1133 Discharge used fluids overboard, return excess to shore for credit.
Uncontaminated fresh or seawater	37,000 bbl (drilling)	Not applicable	South Padre Island Block 1133 Discharged overboard.
Desalinization Unit water	700 bbl/day	Not applicable	South Padre Island Block 1133 Discharged overboard.
Uncontaminated bilge water	2,000 bbl	260 m ³ /hr	South Padre Island Block 1133 Discharged overboard.
Uncontaminated ballast water	20,000 bbl	2,600 m ³ /hr	South Padre Island Block 1133 Discharged overboard.
Misc. discharges to which treatment chemicals have been added	100 bbl/day	10 bbl/hr	South Padre Island Block 1133 Discharged overboard.
Miscellaneous discharges (permitted under NPDES) (Excess cement with cementing chemicals)	100 bbl	Not applicable	South Padre Island Block 1133 Discharged at seafloor without treatment

**F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.
South Padre Island Block 1133
Examples of Wastes and Discharges Information**

Table 2. Disposal Table (Wastes to be disposed of, not discharged)

Type of Waste Approximate Composition	Amount*	Rate per day	Name/Location of Disposal Facility	Treatment and/or Storage, Transport and Disposal Method
Norm – contaminated wastes	1 ton	Not applicable	Newpark Environmental Fourchon, LA	Transport to a transfer station via dedicated barge
Trash and debris	1,000 ft ³	3 ft ³ /day	Newpark Environmental Fourchon, LA	Transport in storage bins on crew boat to disposal facility
Chemical product wastes	50 bbl/yr	2 bbl/day	Newpark Environmental Fourchon, LA	Transport in containers to shore location
Chemical product wastes	100 bbl	2 bbl/day	Newpark Environmental Fourchon, LA	Transport in barrels on crew boat to shore location

*can be expressed as a volume, weight, or rate

SECTION F

Oil Spill Response and Chemical Information

A. Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) Information

Effective March 8, 2004, Minerals Management Service approved F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.'s (F-W's) Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP). F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C. is the only entity covered under this OSRP. Activities proposed in this Initial Exploration Plan will be covered by the Regional OSRP.

B. Oil Spill Removal Organizations (OSRO)

F-W utilizes Clean Gulf Associates (CGA) as its primary provider for equipment, which is an industry cooperative owning an inventory of oil spill clean-up equipment. CGA is supported by the Marine Spill Response Corporation's (MSRC), which is responsible for storing, inspecting, maintaining and dispatching CGA's equipment. The MSRC STARS network provides for the closest available personnel, as well as an MSRC supervisor to operate the equipment.

C. Worst-Case Scenario Comparison (WCD)

<i>Category</i>	<i>Current Regional OSRP WCD</i>	<i>Proposed Exploration Plan WCD</i>
Type of Activity	Drilling/Completion/Testing	Drilling/Completion/Testing
Facility Surface Location	North Padre Island Block 996	South Padre Island Block 1133
Facility Description	MODU	Jack-Up Rig
Distance to Nearest Shoreline (Miles)	23 Miles	19 Miles
Volume: Storage Tanks (total) Facility Piping (total) Lease Term Pipeline Uncontrolled Blowout (day) Potential 24 Hour Volume (Bbls.)	100	50
Type of Liquid Hydrocarbon	Condensate	Condensate
API Gravity	45°	58°

SECTION F

Oil Spill Response and Chemical Information-Continued

Due to the estimated flow rates from an exploratory well blowout are speculative and temporary in nature, F-W will not modify their Regional OSRP to change the WCD.

Since F-W has the capability to respond to the worst-case discharge (WCD) spill scenario included in its Regional OSRP approved on March 8, 2004, and since the worst-case scenario determined for our EP does not replace the worst-case scenario in our Regional OSRP, I hereby certify that F-W has the capability to respond, to the maximum extent practicable, to a worst-case discharge, or a substantial threat of such a discharge, resulting from the activities proposed in our EP.

D. Facility Tanks, Production Vessels

The following table details the tanks (capacity greater than 25 bbls. or more) to be used to support the proposed activities (MODU and barges):

Type of Storage Tank	Type of Facility	Tank Capacity (bbls)	Number of Tanks	Total Capacity (bbls)	Fluid Gravity (API)
Fuel Oil	MODU	250	2	500	38° (Diesel)

E. Spill Response Sites

The following locations will be used in the event and oil spill occurs as a result of the proposed activity.

Primary Response Equipment Location	Pre-Planned Staging Location(s)
Ingleside, Texas Galveston, Texas	Galveston, Texas

F. Diesel Oil Supply Vessels

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

G. Support Vessel Fuel Tanks

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

H. Produced Liquid Hydrocarbon Transportation Vessels

F-W is proposing to conduct well testing operations on the proposed well locations. This process will include flaring the produced gas hydrocarbons and burning the liquid hydrocarbons.

SECTION F

Oil Spill Response and Chemical Information-Continued

I. Oil and Synthetic-Based Drilling Fluids

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

J. Oil Characteristics

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

K. Blowout Scenario

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

L. Spill Discussion for NEPA Analysis

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

M. Pollution Prevention Measures

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

N. FGBNMS Monitoring Plans

According to NTL 2003-G17, this section of the Plan is not applicable to the proposed operations.

SECTION G

Air Emissions Information

The primary air pollutants associated with OCS exploration activities are:

- Carbon Monoxide
- Particulate Matter
- Sulphur Oxides
- Nitrogen Oxides
- Volatile Organic Compounds

These offshore air emissions result mainly from the drilling rig operations, helicopters, and support vessels. These emissions occur mainly from combustion or burning of fuels and natural gas and from venting or evaporation of hydrocarbons. The combustion of fuels occurs primarily on diesel-powered generators, pumps or motors and from lighter fuel motors. Other air emissions can result from catastrophic events such as oil spills or blowouts.

A. Calculating Emissions

Included as *Attachment G-1* is the Projected Air Quality Emissions Report (Form MMS-138) addressing drilling, potential completion and testing operations utilizing a typical jack-up type drilling unit, with related support vessels and construction barge information.

B. Screening Questions

As evidenced by *Attachment G-1*, the worksheets were completed based on proposed well testing operations.

C. Emission Reduction Measures

The projected air emissions are within the exemption level; therefore, no emission reduction measures are being proposed.

D. Verification of Non-Default Emissions Factors

F-W has elected to use the default emission factors as provided in *Attachment G-1*.

E. Non-Exempt Activities

The proposed activities are within the exemption amount as provided in *Attachment G-1*.

SECTION G

Air Emissions Information-Continued

F. Review of Activities with Emissions Below the Exemption Level

The proposed activities are below the exemption amount and should not affect the air quality of an onshore area, as provided in *Attachment G-1*.

G. Modeling Report

The proposed activities are below the exemption amount and should not affect the air quality of an onshore area.

Air Quality Emissions Report

**Attachment G-1
(Public Information)**

EXPLORATION PLAN (EP)
AIR QUALITY SCREENING CHECKLIST

OMB Control No. 1010-0049
OMB Approval Expires: August 31, 2006

COMPANY	F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.
AREA	South Padre Island
BLOCK	1133
LEASE	OCS-G 26431
PLATFORM	NA
WELL	A001, A002, B001, and B002
COMPANY CONTACT	Connie Goers / R.E.M. Solutions, Inc.
TELEPHONE NO.	281.492.8562
REMARKS	To drill, potentially complete, test, and install minimum well protector structures over Well Locations A001, A002, B001, and B002.

Screening Questions for EP's		Yes	No
Is any calculated Complex Total (CT) Emission amount (in tons associated with your proposed exploration activities more than 90% of the amounts calculated using the following formulas: $CT = 3400D^{2/3}$ for CO, and $CT = 33.3D$ for the other air pollutants (where D = distance to shore in miles)?			X
Does your emission calculations include any emission reduction measures or modified emission factors?			X
Are your proposed exploration activities located east of 87.5° W longitude?			X
Do you expect to encounter H ₂ S at concentrations greater than 20 parts per million (ppm)?			X
Do you propose to flare or vent natural gas for more than 48 continuous hours from any proposed well?			X
Do you propose to burn produced hydrocarbon liquids?		X	

Air Pollutant	Plan Emission Amounts ¹ (tons)	Calculated Exemption Amounts ² (tons)	Calculated Complex Total Emission Amounts ³ (tons)
Carbon monoxide (CO)	73.46	24209.25	NA
Particulate matter (PM)	9.15	632.70	NA
Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	46.89	632.70	NA
Nitrogen oxides (NOx)	303.54	632.70	NA
Volatile organic compounds (VOC)	10.21	632.70	NA

¹ For activities proposed in your EP or DOCD, list the projected emissions calculated from the worksheets.

² List the exemption amounts in your proposed activities calculated using the formulas in 30 CFR 250.303(d).

³ List the complex total emissions associated with your proposed activities calculated from the worksheets.

EMISSIONS CALCULATIONS 1ST YEAR

COMPANY	AREA	BLOCK	LEASE	PLATFORM	WELL	CONTACT		PHONE	REMARKS								
F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.	South Padre Island	1133	OCS-G 26431	NA	A001, A002, B001, and B002		Connie Goers / R.E.M. Solutions		281.492.8562								
OPERATIONS	EQUIPMENT	RATING	MAX. FUEL	ACT. FUEL	RUN TIME		MAXIMUM POUNDS PER HOUR					ESTIMATED TONS					
	Diesel Engines	HP	GAL/HR	GAL/D													
	Nat. Gas Engines	HP	SCF/HR	SCF/D													
	Burners	MMBTU/HR	SCF/HR	SCF/D	HR/D	DAYS	PM	SOx	NOx	VOC	CO	PM	SOx	NOx	VOC	CO	
DRILLING	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	11400	550.62	13214.88	24	81	8.04	36.86	276.21	8.29	60.26	7.81	35.83	268.48	8.05	58.58	
	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	BURNER diesel	0			0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	AUXILIARY EQUIP<600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(crew)	2065	99.7395	2393.75	8	81	1.46	6.68	50.03	1.50	10.92	0.47	2.16	16.21	0.49	3.54	
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(supply)	2065	99.7395	2393.75	10	47	1.46	6.68	50.03	1.50	10.92	0.34	1.57	11.76	0.35	2.57	
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(tugs)	4200	202.86	4868.64	12	6	2.96	13.58	101.76	3.05	22.20	0.11	0.49	3.66	0.11	0.80	
FACILITY INSTALLATION	DERRICK BARGE diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	MATERIAL TUG diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(crew)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(supply)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
	MISC.	BPD	SCF/HR	COUNT													
	TANK-	0			0	0				0.00				0.00			
DRILLING	OIL BURN	250			24	8	4.38	71.15	20.83	0.10	2.19	0.42	6.83	2.00	0.00	0.21	
WELL TEST	GAS FLARE		208333.33		24	8		0.12	14.87	12.56	80.94		0.01	1.43	1.21	7.77	
2006 YEAR TOTAL							18.28	135.07	513.75	27.01	187.42	9.15	46.89	303.54	10.21	73.46	
EXEMPTION CALCULATION	DISTANCE FROM LAND IN MILES											632.70	632.70	632.70	632.70	24209.25	
	19.0																

SUMMARY

COMPANY	AREA	BLOCK	LEASE	PLATFORM	WELL
F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.	South Padre Island	1133	OCS-G 26431	NA	A001, A002, B001, and
Year	Emitted Substance				
	PM	SOx	NOx	VOC	CO
2006	9.15	46.89	303.54	10.21	73.46
Allowable	632.70	632.70	632.70	632.70	24209.25

SECTION H

Environmental Impact Analysis

A. IMPACT PRODUCING FACTORS (IPF'S)

The following matrix is utilized to identify the environmental resources that could be impacted by these IPF's. An "x" has been marked for each IPF category that F-W has determined may impact a particular environmental resource as a result of the proposed activities. For those cells which are footnoted, a statement is provided as to the applicability of the proposed activities, and where there may be an effect, an analysis of the effect is provided.

Environmental Resources	Emissions (air, noise, light, etc.)	Effluents (muds, cuttings, other discharges to the water column or seafloor)	Physical Disturbances To the seafloor (rig or anchor emplacement, etc.)	Wastes Sent to Shore for Treatment Or disposal	Accidents (e.g. oil spills, chemical spills, H2S releases)	Other IPF's identified
Site Specific at Offshore Location						
Designated topographic feature						
Pinnacle Trend area live bottoms						
Eastern Gulf live bottoms						
Chemosynthetic communities						
Water quality		X			X	
Fisheries		X			X	
Marine mammals	X	X			X	
Sea turtles	X	X			X	
Air quality						
Shipwreck sites (known or potential)						
Prehistoric archaeological sites						
Vicinity of Offshore Location						
Essential fish habitat					X	
Marine and pelagic birds					X	
Public health and safety						
Coastal and Onshore						
Beaches					X	
Wetlands					X	
Shorebirds and coastal nesting birds					X	
Coastal wildlife refuges					X	
Wilderness areas					X	
Other Resources						

SECTION H

Environmental Impact Analysis-Continued

B. VICINITY OF OFFSHORE LOCATION ANALYSES

1. Designated Topographic Features

There are no anticipated effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, and accidents from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to topographic features. The proposed surface disturbances within South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 45 miles away from the closest designated topographic feature (Alderdice Bank). The crests of designated topographic features in the northern Gulf are found below 10 m. In the event of an accidental oil spill from the proposed activities, the gravity of such oil (high gravity condensate and/or diesel fuel) would rise to the surface, quickly dissipate, and/or be swept clear by the currents moving around the bank; thereby avoiding the sessile biota.

2. Pinnacle Trend Live Bottoms

There are no anticipated effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, and accidents from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to a pinnacle trend area. The proposed surface disturbances within South Padre Island Block 1133 are located a significant distance (> 100 miles) from the closest pinnacle trend live bottom stipulated block. The crests of the pinnacle trend area are much deeper than 20 m. In the event of an accidental oil spill from the proposed activities, the gravity of such oil (high gravity condensate and/or diesel fuel) would rise to the surface, quickly dissipate, and/or be swept clear by currents moving around the bank; and thus not impacting the pinnacles.

3. Eastern Gulf Live Bottoms

There are no anticipated effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, and accidents from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to Eastern Gulf live bottoms. The proposed surface disturbances within South Padre Island Block 1133 are located a significant distance (>100 miles) from the closest pinnacle Eastern Gulf live bottom stipulated block. In the event of an accidental oil spill from the proposed activities, the gravity of such oil (high gravity condensate and/or diesel fuel) would rise to the surface, quickly dissipate, and/or be swept clear by currents moving around the bank; and would not be expected to cause adverse impacts to Eastern Gulf live bottoms because of the depth of the features and dilutions of spills.

4. Chemosynthetic Communities

Water depths in South Padre Island Block 1133 range from 122 feet to 130 feet. Therefore, the proposed activities are not located within the vicinity of any known chemosynthetic communities, which typically occur in water depths greater than 400 meters.

SECTION H

Environmental Impact Analysis-Continued

5. Water Quality

Accidental oil spill releases from the proposed activities, and cumulative similar discharge activity within the vicinity could potentially cause impacts to water quality. It is unlikely that an accidental oil spill release would occur from the proposed activities. In the event of such a release, the water quality would be temporarily affected by the dissolved components and small droplets. Currents and microbial degradation would remove the oil from the water column or dilute the constituents to background levels.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill. F-W will conduct the proposed activities under EPA's Region VI NPDES General Permit GMG290000 which authorizes the discharge of certain effluents, subject to certain limitations, prohibitions and recordkeeping requirements. As such, it is not anticipated these discharges will cause significant adverse impacts to water quality.

6. Fisheries

Accidental oil spill releases from the proposed activities, and cumulative similar discharge activity within the vicinity may potentially cause some detrimental effects on fisheries. It is unlikely a spill would occur; however, such a release in open waters closed to mobile adult finfish or shellfish would likely be sublethal and the extent of damage would be reduced to the capability of adult fish and shellfish to avoid a spill, to metabolize hydrocarbons, and to excrete both metabolites and parent compounds.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill. F-W will conduct the proposed activities under EPA's Region VI NPDES General Permit GMG290000 which authorizes the discharge of certain effluents, subject to certain limitations, prohibitions and recordkeeping requirements. As such, it is not anticipated these discharges will cause significant adverse impacts to water quality.

7. Marine Mammals

As a result of the proposed activities, marine mammals may be adversely impacted by traffic, noise, accidental oil spills, cumulative similar discharge activity, and loss of trash and debris. Chronic and sporadic sublethal effects could occur that may stress and/or weaken individuals of a local group or population and make them more susceptible to infection from

SECTION H

Environmental Impact Analysis-Continued

natural or anthropogenic sources. Few lethal effects are expected from accidental oil spill, chance collisions with service vessels and ingestion of plastic material.

The net results of any disturbance would depend on the size and percentage of the population affected, ecological importance of the disturbed area, environmental and biological parameters that influence an animal's sensitivity to disturbance and stress, and the accommodation time in response to prolonged disturbance (Geraci and St. Aubin, 1980). Collisions between cetaceans and ship could cause serious injury or death (Laist et al., 2001). Sperm whales are one of 11 whale species that are hit commonly by ships (Laist et al., 2001). Collisions between OCS vessels and cetaceans within the project area are expected to be unusual events.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill. F-W will conduct the proposed activities under EPA's Region VI NPDES General Permit GMG290000 which authorizes the discharge of certain effluents, subject to certain limitations, prohibitions and recordkeeping requirements. As such, it is not anticipated these discharges will cause significant adverse impacts to water quality. Additionally, F-W and its contractors will conduct the proposed activities under the additional criteria addressed by MMS in Notice to Lessee's (NTL's) 2003-G10 "Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured/Dead Protective Species" and NTL 2003-G11 "Marine Trash & Debris Awareness & Elimination".

8. Sea Turtles

As a result of the proposed activities, sea turtles may be adversely impacted by traffic, noise, accidental oil spills, cumulative similar discharges, and loss of trash and debris. Small numbers of turtles could be killed or injured by chance collision with service vessels or by eating indigestible trash, particularly plastic items accidentally lost from drilling rigs, production facilities and service vessels. Drilling rigs and project vessels (construction barges) produce noise that could disrupt normal behavior patterns and create some stress to sea turtles, making them more susceptible to disease. Accidental oil spill releases are potential threats which could have lethal effects on turtles. Contact and/or consumption of this released material could seriously affect individual sea turtles. Most OCS related impacts on sea turtles are expected to be sublethal. Chronic and/or avoidance of effected areas could cause declines in survival or productivity, resulting in gradual population declines.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which

SECTION H

Environmental Impact Analysis-Continued

address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill. F-W will conduct the proposed activities under EPA's Region VI NPDES General Permit GMG290000 which authorizes the discharge of certain effluents, subject to certain limitations, prohibitions and recordkeeping requirements.

As such, it is not anticipated these discharges will cause significant adverse impacts to water quality. Additionally, F-W and its contractors will conduct the proposed activities under the additional criteria addressed by MMS in Notice to Lessee's (NTL's) 2003-G10 "Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured/Dead Protective Species" and NTL 2003-G11 "Marine Trash & Debris Awareness & Elimination".

9. Air Quality

The proposed activities are located approximately 19 miles to the nearest shoreline. There would be a limited degree of air quality degradation in the immediate vicinity of the proposed activities. Air quality analyses of the proposed activities are below the MMS exemption level.

10. Shipwreck Site (Known or Potential)

There are no physical disturbances to the seafloor which could impact known or potential shipwreck sites, as the review of high resolution shallow hazards data indicate there are no known or potential shipwreck sites located within the surveyed area.

11. Prehistoric Archaeological Sites

There are no physical disturbances to the seafloor which could cause impacts to prehistoric archaeological sites, as the review of high resolution shallow hazards data and supporting studies did not reflect the occurrence of prehistoric archaeological sites.

Site Specific Offshore Location Analyses

1. Essential Fish Habitat

An accidental oil spill that may occur as a result of the proposed activities has potential to cause some detrimental effects on essential fish habitat. It is unlikely that an accidental oil spill release would occur; however, if a spill were to occur in close proximity to finfish or shellfish, the effects would likely be sublethal and the extent of damage would be reduced to the capability of adult fish and shellfish to avoid a spill, to metabolize hydrocarbons, and to excrete both metabolites and parent compounds.

SECTION H

Environmental Impact Analysis-Continued

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill.

2. Marine and Pelagic Birds

An accidental oil spill that may occur as a result of the proposed activities has potential to impact marine and pelagic birds, by the birds coming into contact with the released oil. It is unlikely that an accidental oil spill release would occur.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill.

3. Public Health and Safety Due to Accidents

There are no anticipated IPF's from the proposed activities that could impact the public health and safety. F-W has requested MMS approval to classify the proposed objective area as absent of hydrogen sulfide.

Coastal and Onshore Analyses

1. Beaches

An accidental oil spill release from the proposed activities could cause impacts to beaches. However, due to the distance from shore (approximately 19 miles), and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. Both historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculations referenced in the publication of OCS EIA /EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill.

SECTION H

Environmental Impact Analysis-Continued

2. Wetlands

An accidental oil spill release from the proposed activities could cause impacts to wetlands. However, due to the distance from shore (approximately 19 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. Both historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculations referenced in the publication of OCS EIA /EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill.

3. Shore Birds and Coastal Nesting Birds

An accidental oil spill release from the proposed activities could cause impacts to shore birds and coastal nesting birds. However, due to the distance from shore (approximately 19 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. Both historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculations referenced in the publication of OCS EIA /EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill.

4. Coastal Wildlife Refuges

An accidental oil spill release from the proposed activities could cause impacts to coastal wildlife refuges. However, due to the distance from shore (approximately 19 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. Both historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculations referenced in the publication of OCS EIA /EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which

SECTION H

Environmental Impact Analysis-Continued

address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill.

5. Wilderness Areas

An accidental oil spill release from the proposed activities could cause impacts to wilderness areas. However, due to the distance from shore (approximately 19 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. Both historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculations referenced in the publication of OCS EIA /EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources.

In the event of an unanticipated blowout resulting in an oil spill, it is unlikely to have an impact based on the industry wide standards for using proven equipment and technology for such responses, implementation of F-W's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan which address available equipment and personnel, techniques for containment and recovery, and removal of the oil spill.

Other Identified Environmental Resources

F-W has not identified any other environmental resources other than those addressed above.

Impacts on Proposed Activities

No impacts are expected on the proposed activities as a result of taking into consideration the site specific environmental conditions.

A High Resolution Shallow Hazards Survey was conducted, a report prepared in accordance with NTL 2005-G07/(2002-G01) and NTL 98-20.

Based on the analysis of the referenced data, there are no surface or subsurface geological and manmade features and conditions that may adversely affect the proposed activities. F-W will institute procedures to avoid pipelines and abandoned wells within the vicinity of the proposed operations.

Alternatives

F-W did not consider any alternatives to reduce environmental impacts as a result of the proposed activities.

SECTION H

Environmental Impact Analysis-Continued

Mitigation Measures

F-W will not implement any mitigation measures to avoid, diminish, or eliminate potential environmental resources, other than those required by regulation and policy.

Consultation

F-W has not contacted any agencies or persons for consultation regarding potential impacts associated with the proposed activities. Therefore, a list of such entities is not being provided.

References

The following documents were utilized in preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment:

<i>Document</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Dated</i>
Shallow Hazards Survey	Fugro Geoservices, Inc.	2005
MMS Environmental Impact Statement Report No. 2002-15	Minerals Management Service	2002
NTL 2003-N06 "Supplemental Bond Procedures	Minerals Management Service	2003
NTL 2004-G01 "Implementation of Seismic Survey Mitigation Measures and Protected Species Observer Program"	Minerals Management Service	2004
NTL 2003-G10 "Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured/Dead Protective Species"	Minerals Management Service	2003
NTL 2003-G11 "Marine Trash & Debris Awareness & Elimination"	Minerals Management Service	2003
NTL 2002-G09 "Regional and Subregional Oil Spill Response Plans"	Minerals Management Service	2002
NTL 2003-G17 "Guidance for Submitting Exploration Plans and Development Operations Coordination Documents"	Minerals Management Service	2003
NTL (2002-G01) "Archaeological Resource Surveys and Reports"	Minerals Management Service	2005/2002
NTL 2000-G16 "Guidelines for General Lease Surety Bonds"	Minerals Management Service	2000
NTL 98-20 "Shallow Hazards Survey Requirements"	Minerals Management Service	1998
NTL 98-16 "Hydrogen Sulfide Requirements"	Minerals Management Service	1998
NPDES General Permit GMG290000	EPA - Region VI	2004
Regional Oil Spill Response Plan	F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.	2004

SECTION I

CZM Consistency

Under direction of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CMZA), the States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas developed Coastal Zone Management Programs (CZMP) to allow for the supervision of significant land and water use activities that take place within or that could significantly impact their respective coastal zones.

A certificate of Coastal Zone Management Consistency for the State of Texas is enclosed as *Attachment I-1*.

Included as *Attachment I-2* are the enforceable policies from the State of Texas that are related to OCS Plan Filings.

Texas Coastal Zone Consistency Statement

Attachment I-1
(Public Information)

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION

INITIAL EXPLORATION PLAN

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND BLOCK 1133

LEASE OCS-G 26431

The proposed activities described in detail in the enclosed Plan comply with Texas' approved Coastal Zone Management Program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such Program.

By: F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C.

Signed By:

WJ Sholen

Dated:

20 Oct 05

Texas Enforceable Policies

**Attachment I-2
(Public Information)**

STATE OF TEXAS

COASTAL ZONE CONSISTENCY POLICIES

Category 2 – Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Facilities

The General Land Office (GLO) and State Mineral Board (SMB) are the management entities for oil and gas exploration and production on state submerged lands under the authority of the Texas Natural Resources Code. The GLO and SLB serve proprietary rather than regulatory roles and determine whether a proposed use of state land is appropriate. Standards and procedures for granting permits and leases for geophysical exploration for and production of oil and gas on state-owned land are established, with rules setting out provisions to prevent damage to or pollution of all lands and waters, including restrictions on the release of solid wastes, restrictions on the use of vehicles to minimize impacts to submerged lands and marshes; provisions for the protection of natural resources, including aquatic life and wildlife, from seismic and production operations; and provisions for remediation of any surface damage from operations.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline. F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C. is proposing to utilize an existing onshore support infrastructure in Ingleside, Texas. Due to the proposed activities being temporary and speculative in nature, we do not anticipate a need for new construction, operation and/or maintenance of facilities.

Category 3 – Discharges of Wastewater and Disposal of Waste from Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Activities

Under the authority of the Texas Natural Resources Code and Texas Water Code, the Railroad Commission (RRC) regulates the management of oil and gas waste and wastewater discharges from exploration and production activities. The RRC must comply with the policies for the discharge of wastewater and disposal of waste from oil and gas exploration and production activities when issuing permits and adopting rules under these authorities.

Such policies include 1) disposal of oil and gas waste in the coastal zone shall comply with the policies in the category, 2) discharge of oil and gas exploration and production wastewater in the coastal zone shall comply with policies in the category.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline. F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C. is proposing to discharge authorized effluents into the receiving waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Overboard discharges (i.e., drilling fluids and associated cuttings) associated with the proposed activities must be tested first for toxicity limitations as mandated by EPA's NPDES General Permit GMG290000. Other solid waste such as ground food will first pass through a 25-millimeter type

mesh screen before being discharged overboard, as regulated by the U.S. Coast Guard's Marine Pollution Research and Control Act (MARPOL) of 1987. Solid wastes will be collected and stored on the facility, and then transported by an offshore support vessel to an authorized onshore disposal site with the State of Texas. These wastes will be manifested and disposed as per the State of Texas regulations.

Category 4 – Construction and Operation of Solid Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities

Under the Texas Solid Waste Disposal Act, the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (TNRCC) implements a permitting program for solid waste disposal sites. The TNRCC must comply with the policies in this category when issuing permits and adopting rules governing the construction and operations of solid waste facilities in the coastal zone. These regulations establish standards and enforcement provisions to implement the state hazardous waste program, which regulates, from the point of generation to ultimate disposal, those wastes which have been identified as hazardous by the EPA. These regulations includes standards for location of certain hazardous waste facilities, including certain prohibited locations such as wetlands, barrier islands, and peninsulas, land disposal of hazardous waste, pollution prevention through hazardous waste source reduction and hazardous waste minimization; and hazardous waste closure, correction actions, and remediation activities.

Due to the proposed activities being temporary and speculative in nature, we do not anticipate a need for new construction and operation of any solid waste treatment, storage or use of disposal facilities for the proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133.

Category 5 – Prevention, Response, and Remediation of Oil Spills

The General Land Office (GLO) rules govern prevention of, response to, and remediation of coastal oil spills, and the assessment of damages to natural resources injured as the result of an unauthorized discharge of oil into coastal waters. The policies require GLO to provide for measures to prevent coastal oil spills and to ensure adequate response and removal actions.

Under the authority of the Texas Natural Resources Code, the GLO promulgated rules requiring coastal facilities that handle oil to obtain a certificate of spill prevention and response capability from the GLO. These rules require that vessels carrying oil in coastal waters have a spill prevention and response plan approved by the GLO. The rules also address spill response and remediation, establishing standards for spill response plans, requiring facilities and vessels to maintain access to adequate response equipment and qualified personnel, and providing for the FLO to subject facilities and vessels to announced and unannounced drills and inspections.

The proposed activities are located in OCS Federal Waters, Gulf of Mexico, approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline. Protection of the environment during the proposed

operations is of primary concern; with F-W mandating regulatory compliance from its contractors and vendors associated with the proposed activities.

F-W has adopted industry standards for safe well operations to prevent potential blowout situations, as well as implementing a Regional Oil Spill Response Plan to respond to a potential spill incident.

The likelihood of land and water uses in the coastal area being impacted is minimal based on the temporary nature of the proposed activities, the implementation measures F-W would employ in the event of a blowout or oil spill, along with the wind and wave currents which could potentially divert such an unanticipated release outside the coastal areas.

Category 6 – Discharge of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater to Coastal Waters

The Texas Water Code states that it is the policy of the state to maintain the quality of water in the state consistent with public health and enjoyment, the propagation and protection of terrestrial and aquatic life, the operation of existing industries, and the economic development of the state and to require the use of all reasonable methods to implement this policy. The TNRCC is designated as the principal authority in the state on matters relating to water quality, resources protection, include the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, the Texas State Water Quality Management Plan, and wastewater permits.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline. F-W Oil Exploration L.L.C. is proposing to discharge authorized effluents into the receiving waters of the Gulf of Mexico as regulated by EPA's NPDES General Permit GMG290000.

F-W does not anticipate the need for discharging any municipal or industrial type waste from these activities into coastal waters of the State of Texas.

Category 7 – Nonpoint-Source (NPS) Water Pollution

The TSSWCB is the lead authority regarding activity for abating agricultural nonpoint sources pollutions. Under this authority, the agency administers the state's soil and water conservation program and coordinates programs of and provides technical assistance to the soil and water conservation district.

The TNRCC has the authority to promulgate rules and regulate on-site sewage disposal systems. The policy of the agency is that individual on-site sewage treatment facilities must be designed, constructed, and operated to provide adequate sewage treatment and disposal that will not contaminate potable water supplies, threaten the health and welfare of the public, result in a hazard to the state's recreational areas, or result in pollution of groundwater or surface water.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline. F-W Oil

Exploration L.L.C. is proposing to discharge authorized effluents into the receiving waters of the Gulf of Mexico as regulated by EPA's NPDES General Permit GMG290000.

F-W does not anticipate discharges from any nonpoint-source from these activities into coastal waters of the State of Texas.

Category 8 - Development in Critical Areas

The TNRCC and RRC shall comply with the policies in this chapter when issuing certification and adopting rules under Texas Water Code, and the Texas Natural Resources Code, governing certification of compliance with surface water quality standards for federal actions and permits authorizing development affecting critical area.

The GLO and SLB shall comply with the policies in this category when approving oil, gas, or other mineral lease plans of operations or granting surface leases, easements, and permit and adopting rules under the Texas Natural resources Code and Texas Water Code.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline; and due to the activities be temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate the need for development of facilities in critical areas.

Category 9 - Construction of Waterfront Facilities and Other Structures on Submerged Lands

The GLO and SLB, in governing development on state submerged lands, shall comply with the policies in this category when approving oil, gas, and other minerals lease plans of operations and granting surface leases, easements, and permit permits and adopting rules under the Texas Natural Resources Code and Texas Water Code. These sites must be evaluated under more specific guidelines for a proposed waterfront structure including site selection to avoid restriction of water circulation, navigations, or public use of the waters, design considerations such as joint use of a moorage facility by a subdivision, motel, or multiple dwelling, and the use of a pier of a pier or catwalk in preference to solid fills to provide requirements that facilities provide proper handling of waste, refuse, and petroleum products where applicable.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline; and due to the activities be temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate construction of any waterfront facilities and other structures on submerged lands.

Category 10 - Dredging and Dredged Material Disposal and Placement

The TNRCC and the RRC shall comply with specified policies when issuing certification and adopting rules under the Texas Water Code and the Texas Natural Resources Code governing certification of compliance with surface water quality standards for federal action

and permit authorizing dredging or the discharge or placement of dredged material. Dredging and the disposal and placement of dredged material shall avoid and otherwise minimize adverse effects to coastal waters, submerged lands, critical areas, coastal shore areas, and Gulf beaches to the greatest extent practicable. The policies in the in this category are supplemented to any further restrictions or requirements relating to the beach access and use rights of the public. In implementing this policy category, cumulative and secondary adverse effects of dredging and the disposal and placement of dredged material and the unique characteristics of affected sites shall be considered.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline; and do not include any anticipated plans for dredging and/or disposal of material.

Category 11 – Construction in the Beach/Dune System

The GLO shall comply with the policies in this category when certifying local government dune protection and beach access plans and adopting rules under the Texas Natural Resources Code. Local governments required by the Texas Natural Resources Code to adopt dune protection and beach access plans shall comply with the applicable policies in this category when issuing beachfront construction certificates and dune protection permits.

The GLO is responsible for protecting the public's right to use and have access to and from the public beaches and for providing standards to the local governments certifying that construction on land adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico in is consistent with such public rights.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline; and due to the activities be temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate any construction activities impacting the beach/dune system of the State of Texas.

Category 12 – Development in Coastal Hazard Areas

The GLO is responsible for coordinating a plan and promulgating rules for coastal erosion avoidance and remediation. Local governments participating in the National Flood Insurance Program shall adopt ordinances and orders governing development in special hazards areas, as defined by the Texas Water Code, that comply with construction standards adopted pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Program.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline; and due to the activities be temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate any construction activities impacting special hazard areas or coastal erosion in the State of Texas.

Category 13 – Development within Coastal Barrier Resources System Units and Otherwise Protected Areas on Coastal Barriers

The TNRCC has statutory authority to create and supervise certain water and water-related districts and to approve the issuance and sale of bonds for a district's construction of infrastructure. The purpose of the TNRCC's oversight of district creation and projects is to ensure that the districts fulfill their obligation to conserve and develop the natural resources of the state in a manner not contrary to the public health, safety, and welfare.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline; and due to the activities be temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate any construction activities impacting the infrastructure on coastal barriers of the State of Texas.

Category 14 – Development in State Parks, Wildlife Management Areas, or Preserves

Chapter 26 of the Parks and Wildlife Code limits development on protected lands. The statute states that a governmental entity of the state may not approve any program or project that requires the use or taking of any public land designate and used as a park, recreation area, scientific area, wildlife refuge, or historic site unless the approving entity determines that (1) there is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use or taking of such land; and (2) the program or project includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the land, for purposes for which it is designated, resulting from the use or taking.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline; and due to the activities be temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate any construction and/or development activities impacting the state parks, wildlife management areas, or preserves of the State of Texas.

Category 15 – Alteration of Coastal Historic Areas

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) shall comply with the policies in this category when adopting rules and issuing permits under the Texas Natural Resources Code governing alteration of coastal historic sites by avoiding and otherwise minimizing alteration or disturbance of the site unless the site's excavation will promote historical, archaeological, educational, or scientific understanding. The THC is directed to protect and preserve the cultural resources of Texas. Cultural resources include archaeological sites, historical sites, and shipwrecks on land or underwater.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline; and will be located in an area determined by the Minerals Management Service as a low potential for cultural or historical resources.

Category 16 – Transportation

Texas Department of Transportation (DOT) is responsible for approving plans for the location, construction and maintenance of the state highway system and public roads and the location, construction, and maintenance of individual state highway system projects. Rules and project approvals governing transportation projects within the coastal zone must comply with the policies in this category. Standard specifications include measures for erosion and sedimentation control, waste disposal, earthwork, and revegetation during construction.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline; and due to the activities being temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate any construction related transportation activities within the State of Texas.

Category 17 – Emission of Air Pollutants

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) is charged with the responsibility under the Texas Clean Air Act to adopt any rules necessary to carry out its duties under the Act, including establishment of air quality standards and of a permitting program for air emissions. The TNRCC is also designated as the agency responsible for developing a comprehensive plan for proper control of air pollution sources.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline. Utilizing a matrix with calculations and formulas supplied by the Minerals Management Service, the projected air emissions from the proposed activities should not have a long-term adverse impact on the State of Texas.

Category 18 – Appropriations of Water

The TNRCC has sole authority for the regulation and management of surface water rights in Texas as authorized by the Texas Water Code. The TNRCC rules and authorizations governing review and actions on application for new permits, or amendments proposing changes to existing permits for diversion or impoundments of state water within 200 stream miles of the coast, must comply with the policies. The TNRCC may place limitations and conditions such as flow stream restrictions to protect existing water rights holders, water quality, aquatic fish and wildlife habitat, inflows from bays and estuaries, and recreational uses; habitat mitigation measures; and water conservation measures.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline. Due to the proposed activities being temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate an impact to State Waters of Texas.

Category 19 – Levee and Flood Control Projects

The TRNCC must approve construction, attempted construction, or maintenance of any levee or other such improvement on, along, or near any stream of this state that is subject to floods, freshets, or overflows so as to control, regulate, or otherwise change the floodwater of the stream. TNRCC rules and approvals for levee construction or modification, drainage, reclamation, channelization, or flood or floodwater control projects must comply with the policies in this category.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline. Due to the proposed activities being temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate an impact to the levees or floodwater control projects of the State of Texas.

Category 20 – Major Actions

For purposes of this category, "major actions" means an individual action relating to an activity for which a federal environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act is required.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are temporary and speculative in nature, and would not be classified as a major action.

Category 22 – Administrative Policies

The Texas Coastal Zone Management Program (TCMP) recommends the local and regional governments, as well as state designated planning agencies adhere to the planning, acquisition, conservation/preservation, restoration, research/education, pollution prevention/recycling, coastal hazards areas, coastal barriers, coastal shores, water quality, public access/recreation, visual/scenic access, fisheries management, and construction/development activities within the TCMP boundary.

The proposed activities addressed in the Plan for South Padre Island Block 1133 are located approximately 19 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline. Due to the proposed activities being temporary and speculative in nature, F-W does not anticipate an impact to the Texas Coastal Zone Management Program policies.