

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
MEMORANDUM


December 19, 2005

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

Subject: Public Information copy of plan  
Control # - S-06824  
Type - Supplemental Development Operations Coordinations Document  
Lease(s) - OCS-G04398 Block - 293 West Cameron Area  
Operator - Apache Corporation  
Description - Caisson and Well No. 008  
Rig Type - Not Found

Attached is a copy of the subject plan.

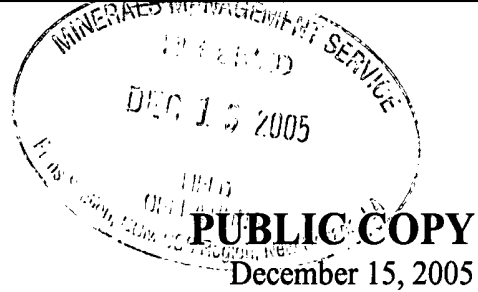
It has been deemed submitted as of this date and is under review for approval.

  
Elmo Cooper  
Plan Coordinator

Site Type/Name	Botm Lse/Area/Blk	Surface Location	Surf Lse/Area/Blk
CAIS/NO. 008		4240 FNL, 1075 FWL	G04398/WC/293
WELL/NO. 008	G04398/WC/293	4240 FNL, 1075 FWL	G04398/WC/293

NOTED. COHEN/ALBRE

PIRS  
DEC 22 2005



## SUPPLEMENTAL DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS COORDINATION DOCUMENT

Lease Number (s): OCS-G 04398  
Area/Block: West Cameron Block 293  
Prospect Name: N/A  
Offshore: Louisiana

Submitted by: Apache Corporation  
2000 Post Oak Blvd.  
Suite 100  
Houston, TX 77056  
  
Gene Linscomb  
(713) 296-7027  
gene.linscomb@apachecorp.com

Estimated start up date: March 1, 2006

Authorized Representative:  
Cheryl Powell  
J. Connor Consulting, Inc.  
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(281) 578-3388  
Cheryl.powell@jccteam.com

### No. Copies Being Submitted:

Proprietary: 5  
Public Info: 3

For MMS:

Plan No. 5-6824  
Assigned to: E. COOPER

APACHE CORPORATION  
SUPPLEMENTAL  
DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS COORDINATION DOCUMENT  
LEASE OCS-G 04398  
WEST CAMERON BLOCK 293

APPENDIX A	<i>Contents of Plan</i>
APPENDIX B	<i>General Information</i>
APPENDIX C	<i>Geological, Geophysical &amp; H<sub>2</sub>S Information</i>
APPENDIX D	<i>Biological and Physical Information</i>
APPENDIX E	<i>Wastes and Discharge Information</i>
APPENDIX F	<i>Oil Spill Information</i>
APPENDIX G	<i>Air Emissions Information</i>
APPENDIX H	<i>Environmental Impact Analysis</i>
APPENDIX I	<i>Coastal Zone Management Consistency Information</i>
APPENDIX J	<i>Plan Information Form</i>

## **APPENDIX A CONTENTS OF PLAN**

Apache Corporation (Apache) is the designated operator of the subject oil and gas lease.

### **(A) DESCRIPTION, OBJECTIVES AND SCHEDULE**

This DOCD provides for the installation of a lease term pipeline and commencement of production from the target sands as detailed in Appendix C of this DOCD. The drilling and completion of Well No.008 and installation of a well protector caisson was provided for in a previously submitted EP.

Appendix J contains a Plan Information Form, which provides a description of proposed activities, and a tentative schedule.

### **(B) LOCATION**

Included as *Attachment A-1* is a map showing the location of the subject well and facility. There are no associated anchors with the proposed operations. A bathymetry map was previously submitted. Additional well information is included in Appendix J, on the Plan Information Form.

### **(C) DRILLING UNIT**

Not applicable to the proposed operations.

### **(D) PRODUCTION FACILITIES**

The installation of the well protector caisson to be designated as Caisson No. 008 was provided for in a previously submitted EP. A schematic of a typical well protector caisson is included as *Attachment A-2*.

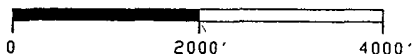
A proposed 6.625" lease term pipeline will be installed to transport bulk gas from Caisson No. 008 to the existing A Platform in West Cameron Block 294. No new nearshore or onshore pipelines or facilities will be constructed.


293

□ #8 PSL

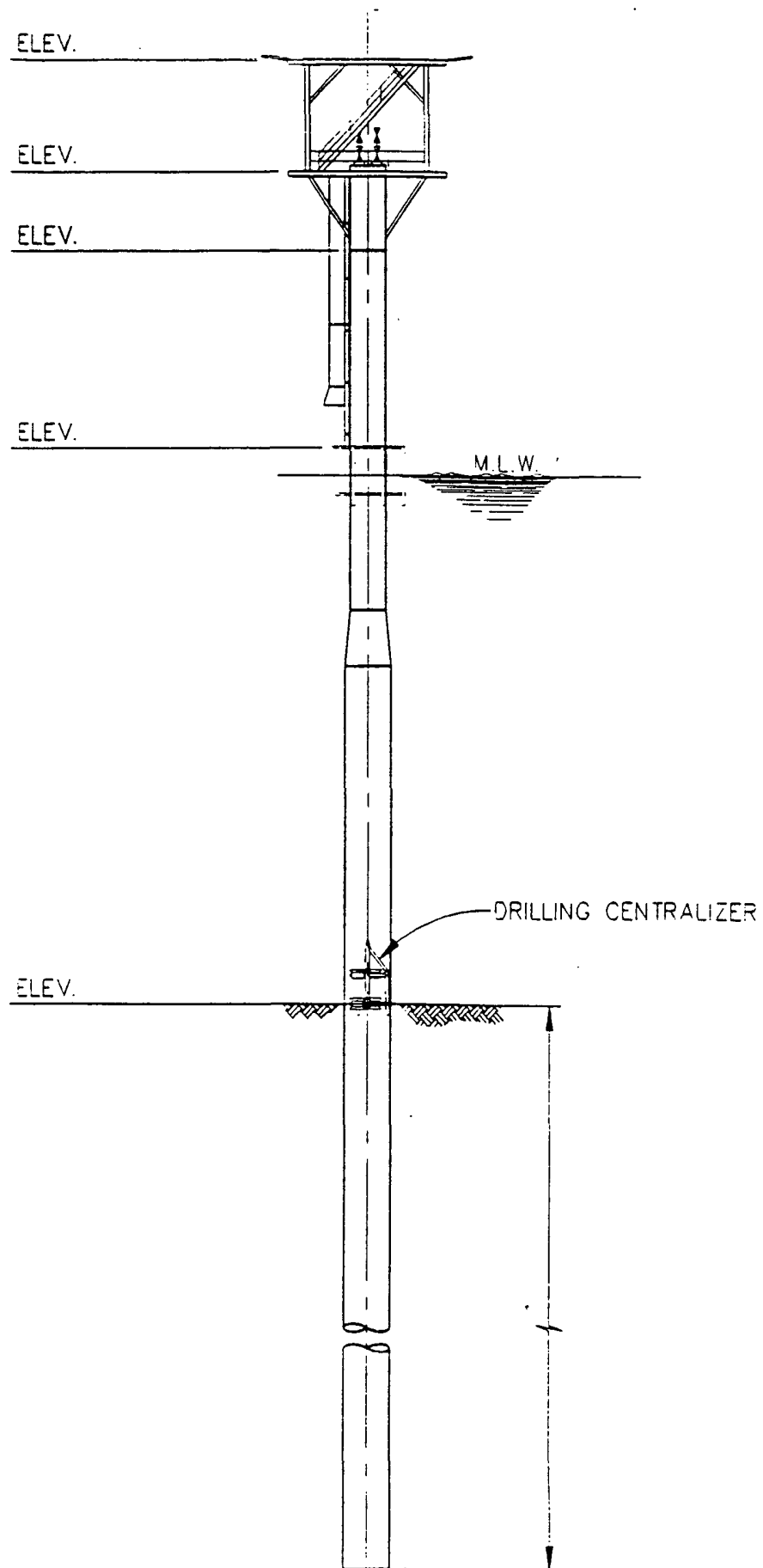
#8 PSL  
WC 293

X=1,274,462.33'  
Y=241,969.77'  
1075.00' FWL  
4240.00' FNL  
Lat 29°18' 44.06"  
Lng 93°36' 35.60"



	
<b>WEST CAMERON BLOCK 293</b> OFFSHORE LOUISIANA DOCD Proposed Well #8 <b>SURFACE &amp; BOTTOMHOLE</b>	
CONTOUR INTERVAL: N/A	DATE: 12-06-05
INTERPRETATION BY: N/A	DRAFTED BY: E.J
SCALE: 1"=2000'	APPROVED BY: N/A
AREA: West Cameron	FILE: gc293docd_ejp8_psb.dwg

# TYPICAL WELL PROTECTOR CAISSON



## **APPENDIX B GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **(A) CONTACT**

Inquiries may be made to the following authorized representative:

Cheryl Powell  
J. Connor Consulting, Inc.  
16225 Park Ten Place, Suite 700  
Houston, Texas 77084  
(281) 578-3388  
E-mail address: [Cheryl.powell@jccteam.com](mailto:Cheryl.powell@jccteam.com)

### **(B) PROJECT NAME**

Not applicable

### **(C) PRODUCTION RATES AND LIFE OF RESERVOIR**

Type of Production	Average Estimated Rates	Estimated Peak
1) Crude Oil		
2) Gas		
3) Condensate		
Estimated Life of the Reservoir =		

### **(D) NEW OR UNUSUAL TECHNOLOGY**

Apache does not propose to use any new or unusual technology to carry out the proposed development/production activities. New or unusual technology is defined as equipment and/or procedures that:

1. Function in a manner that potentially causes different impacts to the environment than the equipment or procedures did in the past;
2. Have not been used previously or extensively in an MMS OCS Region;
3. Have not been used previously under the anticipated operating conditions; or
4. Have operating characteristics that are outside the performance parameters established by 30 CFR 250.

### **(E) BONDING INFORMATION**

The bond requirements for the activities and facilities proposed in this DOCD are satisfied by an area wide bond, furnished and maintained according to 30 CFR 256, subpart I; NTL No. N2000-G16, "Guidelines for General Lease Surety Bonds", dated September 7, 2000.

### **(F) ONSHORE BASE AND SUPPORT VESSELS**

A Vicinity Map is included as *Attachment B-1* showing West Cameron Block 293 located approximately 29 miles from the nearest shoreline and approximately 38 miles from the onshore support base in Cameron, Louisiana.

The existing onshore base provides 24-hour service, a radio tower with a phone patch, dock space, equipment, and supply storage area, drinking and drill water, etc. The base serves as a loading point for tools, equipment, and machinery, and temporary storage for materials and equipment. The base also supports crew change activities. The proposed operations do not require expansion or major modifications to the base.

During the proposed activities, support vessels/helicopters and travel frequency are as follows:

Type	Weekly Estimate (No.) of Roundtrips	
	Drilling & Completion	Production Operations
Crew Boat	N/A	3
Supply Boat	N/A	3
Helicopter	N/A	1

The most practical, direct route from the shorebase as permitted by the weather and traffic conditions will be utilized.

***(G) LEASE STIPULATIONS***

The MMS did not invoke lease stipulations for Lease OCS-G 04398, West Cameron Block 293.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY BLOCKS**

West Cameron Block 293 has been determined as potentially containing prehistoric archaeological properties.

***(H) RELATED OCS FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS***

As previously stated, the subject well will be protected by Caisson No. 008. A proposed 6.625" lease term pipeline will be installed to transport bulk gas from Caisson No. 008 to the existing A Platform in West Cameron Block 294 for processing and sales.

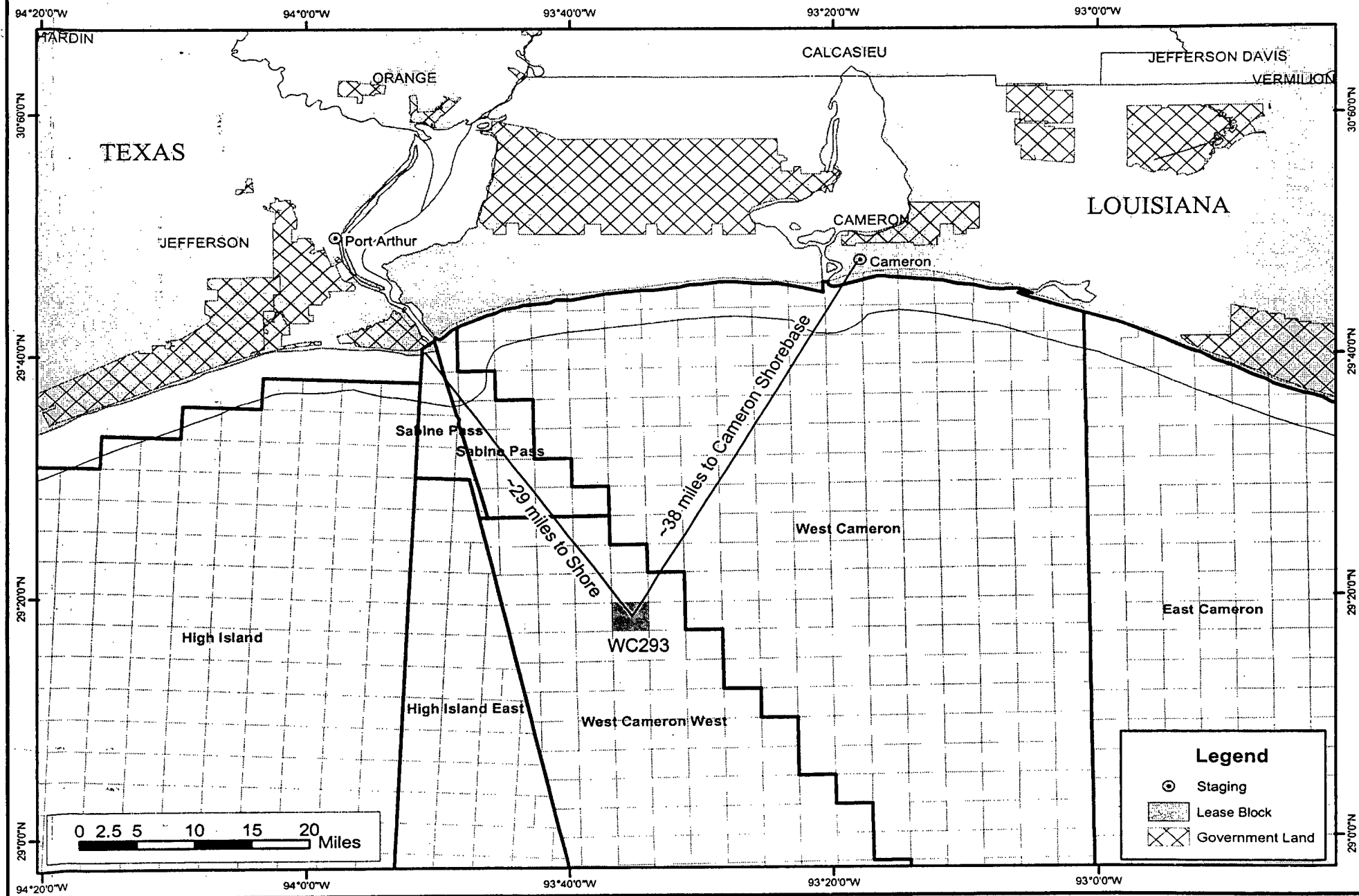
***(I) TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION***

Production from the subject well will be transported to the West Cameron Block 294 A Platform via the aforementioned pipeline. From the West Cameron Block 294 A Platform the production will be transported to the HIOS pipeline system at West Cameron Block 167 and on to shore through the UTOS pipeline system.



# West Cameron 293 Vicinity Map

ATTACHMENT B-1



**APPENDIX C**  
**GEOLOGICAL, GEOPHYSICAL, AND H<sub>2</sub>S INFORMATION**

**(A) STRUCTURE CONTOUR MAPS**

Proprietary Data

**(B) TRAPPING FEATURES**

Proprietary Data

**(C) DEPTH OF GEOPRESSURE**

Proprietary Data

**(D) INTERPRETED 2-D AND/OR 3-D SEISMIC LINES**

Interpreted seismic lines were previously submitted.

**(E) GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE CROSS-SECTIONS**

Proprietary Data

**(F) SHALLOW HAZARDS REPORT**

A Shallow Hazards Report was previously submitted.

**(G) SHALLOW HAZARDS ASSESSMENT**

A Shallow Hazards Assessment was previously submitted.

**(H) HIGH-RESOLUTION SEISMIC LINES**

High resolution seismic lines were previously submitted.

**(I) STRATIGRAPHIC COLUMN**

Proprietary Data

**(J) HYDROGEN SULFIDE INFORMATION**

West Cameron Block 293 was previously classified by the MMS as H<sub>2</sub>S absent.

## **APPENDIX D**

### **BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL INFORMATION**

#### ***CHEMOSYNTHETIC INFORMATION***

This DOCD does not propose activities that could disturb seafloor areas in water depths of 400 meters (1312 feet) or greater, therefore chemosynthetic information is not required.

#### ***TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES INFORMATION***

The activities proposed in this plan will not take place within 500 feet of any identified topographic feature, therefore topographic features information is not required.

#### ***LIVE BOTTOM (PINNACLE TREND) INFORMATION***

West Cameron Block 293 is not located within 100 feet of any pinnacle trend feature with vertical relief equal to or greater than 8 feet; therefore, live bottom information is not required.

#### ***ARCHAEOLOGICAL INFORMATION***

An archaeological report was previously submitted.

## **APPENDIX E**

### **WASTES AND DISCHARGES INFORMATION**

#### ***DISCHARGES***

All discharges associated with operations proposed in this Development Operation Coordination Document will be in accordance with regulations implemented by Minerals Management Service (MMS), U. S. Coast Guard (USCG) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Discharge information is not required per NTL No. 2003-G17.

#### ***WASTES***

For disposed wastes, the type and general characteristics of the wastes, the amount to be disposed of (volume, rate, or weight), the daily rate, the name and location of the disposal facility, a description of any treatment or storage, and the methods for transporting and final disposal are provided in tabular format in *Attachment E-1*. For purposes of this Appendix, disposed wastes describes those wastes generated by the proposed activities that are disposed of by means other than by releasing them in to the waters of the Gulf of Mexico at the site where they are generated. These wastes can be disposed of by offsite release, injection, encapsulation, or placement at either onshore or offshore permitted locations for the purpose of returning them back to the environment.

**Disposal Table Example (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
Waste Oil	4 bbl/yr	0.06 bbl/day	Tesoro; Cameron, LA	Pack in drums and transport to Tesoro for recycling
Trash and debris	5400 cu ft/ year	90 ft <sup>3</sup> /day	BFI; Cameron, LA	Transport in storage bins on crew boat to shorebase; truck to landfill

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

## APPENDIX F OIL SPILL INFORMATION

### 1. SITE-SPECIFIC OSRP

N/A

### 2. REGIONAL OSRP INFORMATION

Apache Corporation's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) was approved on December 2, 2005 and most recently updated on December 13, 2005. Activities proposed in this DOCD will be covered by the Regional OSRP.

### 3. OSRO INFORMATION

Apache's primary equipment provider is Clean Gulf Associates (CGA). The Marine Spill Response Corporation's (MSRC) STARS network will provide closest available personnel, as well as an MSRC supervisor to operate the equipment. .

### 4. WORST-CASE SCENARIO COMPARISON

Category	Regional OSRP WCD	DOCD WCD
Type of Activity	Production > 10 miles from shore	Production > 10 miles from shore
Facility Location (West Cameron Block 293)	ST308	WC293
Facility Designation	Platform A	Caisson No. 008
Distance to Nearest Shoreline (miles)	60	29
Volume		
Storage tanks (total)		
Flowlines (on facility)	1846	
Lease pipelines		90
Uncontrolled blowout	<u>10000</u>	<u>400</u>
Total Volume	11846	490
Type of Oil(s) (crude, condensate, diesel)	Crude	Condensate
API Gravity	30°	50°

Apache has determined that the worst-case scenario from the activities proposed in this DOCD does not supercede the worst-case scenario from our approved regional OSRP.

Since Apache has the capability to respond to the worst-case spill scenario included in its regional OSRP approved on December 2, 2005, and since the worst-case scenario determined for our DOCD does not replace the worst-case scenario in our regional OSRP, I hereby certify that Apache 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 DOCD.

**5. FACILITY TANKS, PRODUCTION VESSELS**

All facility tanks of 25 barrels or more.

Type of Storage Tank	Type of Facility	Tank Capacity (bbls)	Number of Tanks	Total Capacity (bbls)	Fluid Gravity (API)
Production	Caisson	0	0	0	0

## APPENDIX G

### AIR EMISSIONS INFORMATION

**AIR EMISSIONS INFORMATION** (If any of these answers are "yes" – the spreadsheets need to be submitted)

Screening Questions for DOCD's	Yes	No
Is any calculated Complex Total (CT) Emission amount (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
Do your emission calculations include any emission reduction measures or modified emission factors?		X
Does or will the facility complex associated with your proposed development and production activities process production from eight or more wells?		X
Do you expect to encounter H <sub>2</sub> S at concentrations greater than 20 parts per million (ppm)?		X
Do you propose to flare or vent natural gas in excess of the criteria set forth under 250.1105(a)(2) and (3)?		X
Do you propose to burn produced hydrocarbon liquids?		X
Are your proposed development and production activities located within 25 miles from shore?		X
Are your proposed development and production activities located within 200 kilometers of the Breton Wilderness Area?		X

#### Summary Information

There are no existing facilities or activities co-located with the currently proposed activities, therefore the Complex Total Emissions are the same as the Plan Emissions and are provided in the table below.

Air Pollutant	Plan Emission Amounts <sup>1</sup> (tons)	Calculated Exemption Amounts <sup>2</sup> (tons)	Calculated Complex Total Emission Amounts <sup>3</sup> (tons)
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	24.15	32093.04	24.15
Particular matter (PM)	3.22	965.70	3.22
Sulphur dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	14.77	965.70	14.77
Nitrogen oxides (NO <sub>x</sub> )	110.67	965.70	110.67
Volatile organic compounds (VOC)	4.22	965.70	4.22

<sup>1</sup>For activities proposed in your DOCD, list the projected emissions calculated from the worksheets.

<sup>2</sup>List the exemption amounts for your proposed activities calculated by using the formulas in 30 CFR 250.303(d).

<sup>3</sup>List the complex total emissions associated with your proposed activities calculated from the worksheets.



This information was calculated by: Cheryl Powell  
(281) 578-3388  
Cheryl.powell@jccteam.com

Based on this data, emissions from the proposed activities will not cause any significant effect on onshore air quality.

# **APPENDIX H** **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS (EIA)**

## **Apache Corporation (Apache)**

### **Supplemental Development Operations Coordination Document** **West Cameron Block 293** **OCS-G04398**

#### **(A) Impact Producing Factors**

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS WORKSHEET**

Environment Resources	Impact Producing Factors (IPFs) Categories and Examples					
	Refer to recent GOM OCS Lease Sale EIS for a more complete list of IPFs					
	Emissions (air, noise, light, etc.)	Effluents (muds, cutting, other discharges to the water column or seafloor)	Physical disturbances to the seafloor (rig or anchor emplacements, etc.)	Wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal	Accidents (e.g., oil spills, chemical spills, H <sub>2</sub> S releases)	Discarded Trash & Debris
<b>Site-specific at Offshore Location</b>						
Designated topographic features		(1)	(1)		(1)	
Pinnacle-Trend area live bottoms		(2)	(2)		(2)	
Eastern Gulf live bottoms		(3)	(3)		(3)	
Chemosynthetic communities			(4)			
Water quality		X	X		X	
Fisheries		X	X		X	
Marine Mammals	X(8)	X			X(8)	X
Sea Turtles	X(8)	X			X(8)	X
Air quality	X(9)					
Shipwreck sites (known or potential)			(7)			
Prehistoric archaeological sites			X(7)			
<b>Vicinity of Offshore Location</b>						
Essential fish habitat		X	X		X(6)	
Marine and pelagic birds	X				X	X
Public health and safety					(5)	
<b>Coastal and Onshore</b>						
Beaches					X(6)	X
Wetlands					X(6)	
Shore birds and coastal nesting birds					X(6)	X
Coastal wildlife refuges					X	

Wilderness areas					X	

### Footnotes for Environmental Impact Analysis Matrix

- 1) Activities that may affect a marine sanctuary or topographic feature. Specifically, if the well or platform site or any anchors will be on the seafloor within the:
  - o 4-mile zone of the Flower Garden Banks, or the 3-mile zone of Stetson Bank;
  - o 1000-m, 1-mile or 3-mile zone of any topographic feature (submarine bank) protected by the Topographic Features Stipulation attached to an OCS lease;
  - o Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) criteria of 500 ft. from any no-activity zone; or
  - o Proximity of any submarine bank (500 ft. buffer zone) with relief greater than 2 meters that is not protected by the Topographic Features Stipulation attached to an OCS lease.
- 2) Activities with any bottom disturbance within an OCS lease block protected through the Live Bottom (Pinnacle Trend) Stipulation attached to an OCS lease.
- 3) Activities within any Eastern Gulf OCS block where seafloor habitats are protected by the Live Bottom (Low-Relief) Stipulation attached to an OCS lease.
- 4) Activities on blocks designated by the MMS as being in water depths 400 meters or greater.
- 5) Exploration or production activities where H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations greater than 500 ppm might be encountered.
- 6) All activities that could result in an accidental spill of produced liquid hydrocarbons or diesel fuel that you determine would impact these environmental resources. If the proposed action is located a sufficient distance from a resource that no impact would occur, the EIA can note that in a sentence or two.
- 7) All activities that involve seafloor disturbances, including anchor emplacements, in any OCS block designated by the MMS as having high-probability for the occurrence of shipwrecks or prehistoric sites, including such blocks that will be affected that are adjacent to the lease block in which your planned activity will occur. If the proposed activities are located a sufficient distance from a shipwreck or a prehistoric site that no impact would occur, the EIA can note that in a sentence or two.
- 8) All activities that you determine might have an adverse effect on endangered or threatened marine mammals or sea turtles or their critical habitats.
- 9) Production activities that involve transportation of produced fluids to shore using shuttle tankers or barges.

## **(B) Analysis**

### **Site-Specific at West Cameron Block 293**

Proposed operations consist of the installation of one lease term pipeline and commencement of production of one well.

#### **1. Designated Topographic Features**

Potential IPFs on topographic features include physical disturbances to the seafloor, effluents, and accidents.

**Physical disturbances to the seafloor:** West Cameron Block 293 is 69 miles from the closest designated Topographic Features Stipulation Block (Claypile Bank); therefore, no adverse impacts are expected.

**Effluents:** West Cameron Block 293 is 69 miles from the closest designated Topographic Features Stipulation Block (Claypile Bank); therefore, no adverse impacts are expected.

**Accidents:** It is unlikely that an accidental surface or subsurface spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to statistics in **Item 5**, Water Quality). Oil spills cause damage to benthic organisms only if the oil contacts the organisms. Oil from a surface spill can be driven into the water column; measurable amounts have been documented down to a 10 m depth. At this depth, the oil is found only at concentrations several orders of magnitude lower than the amount shown to have an effect on corals. Because the crests of topographic features in the Northern Gulf of Mexico are found below 10 m, no oil from a surface spill could reach their sessile biota. Oil from a subsurface spill is not applicable due to the distance of these blocks from a topographic area. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

There are no other IPFs (including emissions and wastes sent to shore for disposal) from the proposed activities, which could impact topographic features.

#### **2. Pinnacle Trend Area Live Bottoms**

Potential IPFs on pinnacle trend area live bottoms include physical disturbances to the seafloor, effluents, and accidents.

**Physical disturbances to the seafloor:** West Cameron Block 293 is greater than 200 miles from the closest live bottom (pinnacle trend) area; therefore, no adverse impacts are expected.

**Effluents:** West Cameron Block 293 is greater than 200 miles from the closest live bottom (pinnacle trend) area; therefore, no adverse impacts are expected.

**Accidents:** It is unlikely that an accidental surface or subsurface spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to statistics in **Item 5**, Water Quality). Oil spills have the potential to foul benthic communities and cause lethal and sublethal effects on live bottom organisms. Oil from a surface spill can be driven into the water column; measurable amounts have been documented down to a 10 m depth. At this depth, the oil is found only at concentrations several orders of magnitude lower than the amount shown to have an effect on marine organisms. Oil from a subsurface spill is not applicable due to the distance of these blocks from a live bottom (pinnacle trend) area. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

There are no other IPFs (including emissions and wastes sent to shore for disposal) from the proposed activities which could impact a live bottom (pinnacle trend) area.

### **3. Eastern Gulf Live Bottoms**

Potential IPFs on Eastern Gulf live bottoms include physical disturbances to the seafloor, effluents, and accidents.

**Physical disturbances to the seafloor:** West Cameron Block 293 is not located in an area characterized by the existence of live bottoms, and this lease does not contain a Live-Bottom Stipulation requiring a photo documentation survey and survey report.

**Effluents:** West Cameron Block 293 is not located in an area characterized by the existence of live bottoms; therefore, no adverse impacts are expected.

**Accidents:** It is unlikely that an accidental surface or subsurface spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to statistics in **Item 5**, Water Quality). Oil spills cause damage to live bottom organisms only if the oil contacts the organisms. Oil from a surface spill can be driven into the water column; measurable amounts have been documented down to a 10 m depth. At this depth, the oil is found only at concentrations several orders of magnitude lower than the amount shown to have an effect on marine invertebrates. Oil from a subsurface spill is not applicable due to the distance of these blocks from a live bottom area. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

There are no other IPFs (including emissions and wastes sent to shore for disposal) from the proposed activities which could impact an Eastern Gulf live bottom area.

#### **4. Chemosynthetic Communities**

There are no IPFs (including emissions, physical disturbances to the seafloor, wastes sent to shore for disposal, or accidents) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to chemosynthetic communities.

Operations proposed in this plan are in water depths of 38 feet. High-density chemosynthetic communities are found only in water depths greater than 1,312 feet (400 meters); therefore, Apache's proposed operations in West Cameron Block 293 would not cause impacts to chemosynthetic communities.

#### **5. Water Quality**

IPFs that could result in water quality degradation from the proposed operations in West Cameron Block 293 include disturbances to the seafloor, effluents and accidents.

**Physical disturbances to the seafloor:** Bottom area disturbances resulting from the emplacement of drill rigs, the drilling of wells and the installation of platforms and pipelines would increase water-column turbidity and re-suspension of any accumulated pollutants, such as trace metals and excess nutrients. This would cause short-lived impacts on water quality conditions in the immediate vicinity of the emplacement operations.

**Effluents:** Levels of contaminants in drilling muds and cuttings and produced water discharges, discharge-rate restrictions and monitoring and toxicity testing are regulated by the EPA NPDES permit, thereby eliminating many significant biological or ecological effects. Operational discharges are not expected to cause significant adverse impacts to water quality.

**Accidents:** Oil spills have the potential to alter offshore water quality; however, it is unlikely that an accidental surface or subsurface spill would occur from the proposed activities. Between 1980 and 2000, OCS operations produced 4.7 billion barrels of oil and spilled only 0.001 percent of this oil, or 1 bbl for every 81,000 bbl produced. The spill risk related to a diesel spill from drilling operations is even less. Between 1976 and 1985, (years for which data were collected), there were 80 reported diesel spills greater than one barrel associated with drilling activities. Considering that there were 11,944 wells drilled, this is a 0.7 percent probability of an occurrence. If a spill were to occur, the water quality of marine waters would be temporarily affected by the dissolved components and small oil droplets. Dispersion by currents and microbial degradation would remove the oil from the water column and dilute the constituents to background levels. Historically, changes in offshore water quality from oil spills have only been detected during the life of the spill and up to several months afterwards. Most of the components of oil are insoluble in water and therefore float. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

There are no other IPFs (including emissions, physical disturbances to the seafloor, and wastes sent to shore for disposal) from the proposed activities which could cause impacts to water quality.

## **6. Fisheries**

IPFs that could cause impacts to fisheries as a result of the proposed operations in West Cameron Block 293 include physical disturbances to the seafloor, effluents and accidents.

**Physical disturbances to the seafloor:** The emplacement of a structure or drilling rig results in minimal loss of bottom trawling area to commercial fishermen. Pipelines cause gear conflicts which result in losses of trawls and shrimp catch, business downtime and vessel damage. Most financial losses from gear conflicts are covered by the Fishermen's Contingency Fund (FCF). The emplacement and removal of facilities are not expected to cause significant adverse impacts to fisheries.

**Effluents:** Effluents such as drilling fluids and cuttings discharges contain components and properties which are detrimental to fishery resources. Moderate petroleum and metal contamination of sediments and the water column can occur out to several hundred meters down-current from the discharge point. Offshore discharges are expected to disperse and dilute to very near background levels in the water column or on the seafloor within 3,000 m of the discharge point, and are expected to have negligible effect on fisheries.

**Accidents:** An accidental oil spill has the potential to cause some detrimental effects on fisheries; however, it is unlikely that such an event would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water Quality). The effects of oil on mobile adult finfish or shellfish would likely be sublethal and the extent of damage would be reduced to the capacity of adult fish and shellfish to avoid the spill, to metabolize hydrocarbons, and to excrete both metabolites and parent compounds. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

There are no IPFs from emissions, or wastes sent to shore for disposal from the proposed activities which could cause impacts to fisheries.

## **7. Marine Mammals**

GulfCet II studies revealed that cetaceans of the continental shelf and shelf-edge were almost exclusively bottlenose dolphin and Atlantic spotted dolphin. Squid eaters, including dwarf and pygmy killer whale, Risso's dolphin, rough-toothed dolphin, and Cuvier's beaked whale, occurred most frequently along the upper slope in areas outside of anticyclones. IPFs that could cause impacts to marine mammals as a result of the proposed operations in West Cameron Block 293 include emissions, effluents, discarded trash and debris, and accidents.

**Emissions:** Noises from drilling activities, support vessels and helicopters may elicit a startle reaction from marine mammals. This reaction may lead to disruption of marine mammals' normal activities. Stress may make them more vulnerable to parasites, disease, environmental contaminants, and/or predation (Majors and Myrick, 1990). There is little conclusive evidence for long-term displacements and population trends for marine mammals relative to noise.

**Effluents:** Drilling fluids and cuttings discharges contain components which may be detrimental to marine mammals. Most operational discharges are diluted and dispersed upon release. Any potential impact from drilling fluids would be indirect, either as a result of impacts on prey items or possibly through ingestion in the food chain (API, 1989).

**Discarded trash and debris:** Both entanglement in, and ingestion of debris have caused the death or serious injury of marine mammals (Laist, 1997; MMC, 1999). The limited amount of marine debris, if any, resulting from the proposed activities is not expected to substantially harm marine mammals. Operators are prohibited from deliberately discharging debris as mandated by MARPOL-Annex V and the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act, and regulations imposed by various agencies including the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Apache will operate in accordance with the regulations and also avoid accidental loss of solid waste items by maintaining waste management plans, manifesting trash sent to shore, and using special precautions such as covering outside trash bins to prevent accidental loss of solid waste. Special caution will be exercised when handling and disposing of small items and packaging materials, particularly those made of non-biodegradable, environmentally persistent materials such as plastic or glass.

Informational placards will be posted on all vessels and facilities having sleeping or food preparation capabilities. All offshore personnel, including contractors and other support services-related personnel (e.g. helicopter pilots, vessel captains and boat crews) will be indoctrinated on waste procedures, and will view the video, "All Washed Up: The Beach Litter Problem". Thereafter, all personnel will view the marine trash and debris training video annually.

**Accidents:** Collisions between support vessels and cetaceans would be unusual events, however should one occur, death or injury to marine mammals is possible. Contract vessel operators can avoid marine mammals and reduce potential deaths by maintaining a vigilant watch for marine mammals and maintaining a safe distance when they are sighted. Vessel crews should use a reference guide to help identify the twenty-eight species of whales and dolphins, and the single species of manatee that may be encountered in the Gulf of Mexico OCS. Vessel crews must report sightings of any injured or dead protected marine mammal species immediately, regardless of whether the injury or death is caused by their vessel, to the Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Stranding Hotline at (800) 799-6637, or the Marine Mammal Stranding Network at (305) 862-2850. In addition, if the injury or death was caused by a collision with a



contract vessel, the MMS must be notified within 24 hours of the strike by email to [protectedspecies@mms.gov](mailto:protectedspecies@mms.gov). If the vessel is the responsible party, it is required to remain available to assist the respective salvage and stranding network as needed.

Oil spills have the potential to cause sublethal oil-related injuries and spill-related deaths to marine mammals. However, it is unlikely that an accidental oil spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water Quality). Oil spill response activities may increase vessel traffic in the area, which could add to changes in cetacean behavior and/or distribution, thereby causing additional stress to the animals. The effect of oil dispersants on cetaceans is not known. The acute toxicity of oil dispersant chemicals included in Apache's OSRP is considered to be low when compared with the constituents and fractions of crude oils and diesel products. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in accordance with **Appendix F**).

There are no other IPFs (including physical disturbances to the seafloor) from the proposed activities which could impact marine mammals.

#### **8. Sea Turtles**

IPFs that could cause impacts to sea turtles as a result of the proposed operations include emissions, effluents, discarded trash and debris, and accidents. GulfCet II studies sighted most loggerhead, Kemp's ridley and leatherback sea turtles over shelf waters. Historically these species have been sighted up to the shelf's edge. They appear to be more abundant east of the Mississippi River than they are west of the river (Fritts et al., 1983b; Lohoefer et al., 1990). Deep waters may be used by all species as a transitory habitat.

**Emissions:** Noise from drilling activities, support vessels, and helicopters may elicit a startle reaction from sea turtles, but this is a temporary disturbance.

**Effluents:** Drilling fluids and cuttings discharges are not known to be lethal to sea turtles. Most operational discharges are diluted and dispersed upon release. Any potential impact from drilling fluids would be indirect, either as a result of impacts on prey items or possibly through ingestion in the food chain (API, 1989).

**Discarded trash and debris:** Both entanglement in, and ingestion of, debris have caused the death or serious injury of sea turtles (Balazs, 1985). The limited amount of marine debris, if any, resulting from the proposed activities is not expected to substantially harm sea turtles. Operators are prohibited from deliberately discharging debris as mandated by MARPOL-Annex V and the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act, and regulations imposed by various agencies including the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Apache will operate in accordance with the regulations and also avoid accidental loss of solid waste items by maintaining waste management plans, manifesting trash sent to shore, and

using special precautions such as covering outside trash bins to prevent accidental loss of solid waste. Special caution will be exercised when handling and disposing of small items and packaging materials, particularly those made of non-biodegradable, environmentally persistent materials such as plastic or glass.

Informational placards will be posted on all vessels and facilities having sleeping or food preparation capabilities. All offshore personnel, including contractors and other support services-related personnel (e.g. helicopter pilots, vessel captains and boat crews) will be indoctrinated on waste procedures, and will view the video, "All Washed Up: The Beach Litter Problem". Thereafter, all personnel will view the marine trash and debris training video annually.

**Accidents:** Collisions between support vessels and sea turtles would be unusual events, however should one occur, death or injury to sea turtles is possible. Contract vessel operators can avoid sea turtles and reduce potential deaths by maintaining a vigilant watch for sea turtles and maintaining a safe distance when they are sighted. Vessel crews should use a reference guide to help identify the five species of sea turtles that may be encountered in the Gulf of Mexico OCS. Vessel crews must report sightings of any injured or dead protected sea turtle species immediately, regardless of whether the injury or death is caused by their vessel, to the Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Stranding Hotline at (800) 799-6637, or the Marine Mammal Stranding Network at (305) 862-2850. In addition, if the injury or death was caused by a collision with a contract vessel, the MMS must be notified within 24 hours of the strike by email to [protectedspecies@mms.gov](mailto:protectedspecies@mms.gov). If the vessel is the responsible party, it is required to remain available to assist the respective salvage and stranding network as needed.

All sea turtle species and their life stages are vulnerable to the harmful effects of oil through direct contact or by fouling of their food. Exposure to oil can be fatal, particularly to juveniles and hatchlings. However, it is unlikely that an accidental oil spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water Quality). Oil spill response activities may increase vessel traffic in the area, which could add to the possibility of collisions with sea turtles. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in accordance with **Appendix F**).

There are no other IPFs (including physical disturbances to the seafloor) from the proposed activities which could impact sea turtles.

#### **9. Air Quality**

The projected air emissions identified in Appendix G are not expected to affect the OCS air quality primarily due to distance to the shore or to any Prevention of Significant Deterioration Class I air quality area such as the Breton Wilderness Area. West Cameron Block 293 is beyond the 200 kilometer (124 mile) buffer for the Breton Wilderness Area and is 29 miles from the coastline. Therefore, no special mitigation, monitoring, or reporting requirements apply with respect to air emissions.

Accidents and blowouts can release hydrocarbons or chemicals, which could cause the emission of air pollutants. However, these releases would not impact onshore air quality because of the prevailing atmospheric conditions, emission height, emission rates, and the distance of West Cameron Block 293 from the coastline. There are no other IPFs (including effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal) from the proposed activities which could impact air quality.

#### **10. Shipwreck Sites (known or potential)**

IPFs that could impact known or unknown shipwreck sites as a result of the proposed operations in West Cameron Block 293 include disturbances to the seafloor. West Cameron Block 293 is not located in or adjacent to an OCS block designated by MMS as having a high probability for occurrence of shipwrecks. Company will report to MMS the discovery of any evidence of a shipwreck and make every reasonable effort to preserve and protect that cultural resource. There are no other IPFs (including emissions, effluents, wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal, or accidents) from the proposed activities which could impact shipwreck sites.

#### **11. Prehistoric Archaeological Sites**

IPFs that could cause impacts to prehistoric archaeological sites as a result of the proposed operations in West Cameron Block 293 are physical disturbances to the seafloor and accidents (oil spills).

**Physical Disturbances to the seafloor:** West Cameron Block 293 is located inside the Archaeological Prehistoric high probability lines. Apache will report to MMS the discovery of any object of prehistoric archaeological significance and make every reasonable effort to preserve and protect that cultural resource.

**Accidents:** An accidental oil spill has the potential to cause some detrimental effects to prehistoric archaeological sites if the release were to occur subsea. However, it is unlikely that an accidental oil spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water Quality). The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in accordance with **Appendix F**).

There are no other IPFs (including emissions, effluents, wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to prehistoric archaeological sites.

#### **Vicinity of Offshore Location**

### **1. Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)**

IPFs that could cause impacts to EFH as a result of the proposed operations in West Cameron Block 293 include physical disturbances to the seafloor, effluents and accidents. EFH includes all estuarine and marine waters and substrates in the Gulf of Mexico.

**Physical disturbances to the seafloor:** The Live Bottom Low Relief Stipulation, the Live Bottom (Pinnacle Trend) Stipulation, and the Eastern Gulf Pinnacle Trend Stipulation would prevent most of the potential impacts on live-bottom communities and EFH from bottom disturbing activities (e.g., anchoring, structure emplacement and removal).

**Effluents:** The Live Bottom Low Relief Stipulation, the Live Bottom (Pinnacle Trend) Stipulation, and the Eastern Gulf Pinnacle Trend Stipulation would prevent most of the potential impacts on live-bottom communities and EFH from operational waste discharges. Levels of contaminants in drilling muds and cuttings and produced-water discharges, discharge-rate restrictions, and monitoring and toxicity testing are regulated by the EPA NPDES permit, thereby eliminating many significant biological or ecological effects. Operational discharges are not expected to cause significant adverse impacts to EFH.

**Accidents:** An accidental oil spill has the potential to cause some detrimental effects on EFH. Oil spills that contact coastal bays and estuaries, as well as OCS waters when pelagic eggs and larvae are present, have the greatest potential to affect fisheries. However, it is unlikely that an oil spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water Quality). The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

There are no other IPFs (including emissions, or wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal) from the proposed activities which could impact essential fish habitat.

### **2. Marine and Pelagic Birds**

IPFs that could impact marine birds as a result of the proposed activities include air emissions, accidental oil spills, and discarded trash and debris from vessels and the facilities.

**Emissions:** Emissions of pollutants into the atmosphere from these activities are far below concentrations which could harm coastal and marine birds.

**Accidents:** An oil spill would cause localized, low-level petroleum hydrocarbon contamination. However, it is unlikely that an oil spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water Quality). Marine and pelagic birds feeding at the spill location may experience chronic, nonfatal, physiological stress. It is expected that few, if any, coastal and marine birds would actually be affected to that extent. The activities proposed in this plan will be

covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

**Discarded trash and debris:** Marine and pelagic birds could become entangled and snared in discarded trash and debris, or ingest small plastic debris, which can cause permanent injuries and death. Operators are prohibited from deliberately discharging debris as mandated by MARPOL-Annex V and the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act, and regulations imposed by various agencies including the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Apache will operate in accordance with the regulations and also avoid accidental loss of solid waste items by maintaining waste management plans, manifesting trash sent to shore, and using special precautions such as covering outside trash bins to prevent accidental loss of solid waste. Special caution will be exercised when handling and disposing of small items and packaging materials, particularly those made of non-biodegradable, environmentally persistent materials such as plastic or glass. Informational placards will be posted on all vessels and facilities having sleeping or food preparation capabilities. All offshore personnel, including contractors and other support services-related personnel (e.g. helicopter pilots, vessel captains and boat crews) will be indoctrinated on waste procedures, and will view the video, "All Washed Up: The Beach Litter Problem". Thereafter, all personnel will view the marine trash and debris training video annually. Debris, if any, from these proposed activities will seldom interact with marine and pelagic birds; therefore, the effects will be negligible.

There are no other IPFs (including effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, or wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal) from the proposed activities which could impact marine and pelagic birds.

### **3. Public Health and Safety Due to Accidents.**

There are no IPFs (emissions, effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal or accidents, including an accidental H<sub>2</sub>S releases) from the proposed activities which could cause impacts to public health and safety. In accordance with 30 CFR 250.417(c) and 2002-G08, sufficient information is included in **Appendix C** to justify our request that our proposed activities be classified by MMS as H<sub>2</sub>S absent.

## **Coastal and Onshore**

### **1. Beaches**

IPFs from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to beaches include accidents (oil spills) and discarded trash and debris.

**Accidents:** Oil spills contacting beaches would have impacts on the use of recreational beaches and associated resources. Due to the response capabilities that would be implemented,

no significant adverse impacts are expected. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

**Discarded trash and debris:** Trash on the beach is recognized as a major threat to the enjoyment and use of beaches. There will only be a limited amount of marine debris, if any, resulting from the proposed activities. Operators are prohibited from deliberately discharging debris as mandated by MARPOL-Annex V and the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act, and regulations imposed by various agencies including the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Apache will operate in accordance with the regulations and also avoid accidental loss of solid waste items by maintaining waste management plans, manifesting trash sent to shore, and using special precautions such as covering outside trash bins to prevent accidental loss of solid waste. Special caution will be exercised when handling and disposing of small items and packaging materials, particularly those made of non-biodegradable, environmentally persistent materials such as plastic or glass.

Informational placards will be posted on all vessels and facilities having sleeping or food preparation capabilities. All offshore personnel, including contractors and other support services-related personnel (e.g. helicopter pilots, vessel captains and boat crews) will be indoctrinated on waste procedures, and will view the video, "All Washed Up: The Beach Litter Problem". Thereafter, all personnel will view the marine trash and debris training video annually.

There are no other IPFs (emissions, effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, or wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal) from the proposed activities which could impact beaches.

## **2. Wetlands**

Salt marshes and seagrass beds fringe the coastal areas of the Gulf of Mexico. Due to the distance from shore (29 miles), accidents (oil spills) represent an IPF which could impact these resources.

**Accidents:** Level of impact from an oil spill will depend on oil concentrations contacting vegetation, kind of oil spilled, types of vegetation affected, season of the year, pre-existing stress level of the vegetation, soil types, and numerous other factors. Light-oiling impacts will cause plant die-back with recovery within two growing seasons without artificial replanting. However, it is unlikely that an oil spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water quality). If a spill were to occur, response capabilities as outlined in Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in Appendix F) would be implemented.

There are no other IPFs (emissions, effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, or wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to wetlands.

### **3. Shore Birds and Coastal Nesting Birds**

Texas Point NWR (28 miles from West Cameron Block 293) is a highly productive habitat for wildlife. Thousands of shore birds use the refuge as a wintering area. Also, wading birds nest on the refuge. The Texas Point NWR provides habitat for colonies of nesting wading birds and seabirds as well as wintering shorebirds and waterfowl. The most abundant nesters are brown pelicans, laughing gulls, and royal, Caspian, and sandwich terns. IPFs from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to shore birds and coastal nesting birds are accidents (oil spills) and discarded trash and debris.

**Accidents:** Oil spills could cause impacts to shore birds and coastal nesting birds. The birds most vulnerable to direct effects of oiling include those species that spend most of their time swimming on and under the sea surface, and often aggregate in dense flocks (Piatt et al., 1990; Vauk et al., 1989). Coastal birds, including shorebirds, waders, marsh birds, and certain water fowl, may be the hardest hit indirectly through destruction of their feeding habitat and/or food source (Hansen, 1981; Vermeer and Vermeer, 1975). Direct oiling of coastal birds and certain seabirds is usually minor; many of these birds are merely stained as a result of their foraging behaviors. Birds can ingest oil when feeding on contaminated food items or drinking contaminated water.

Oil-spill cleanup operations will result in additional disturbance of coastal birds after a spill. However, it is unlikely that an oil spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water quality). Due to the distance from shore being 29 miles, Apache would immediately implement the response capabilities outlined in their Regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

**Discarded trash and debris:** Coastal and marine birds are highly susceptible to entanglement in floating, submerged, and beached marine debris: specifically plastics. Operators are prohibited from deliberately discharging debris as mandated by MARPOL-Annex V and the Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act, and regulations imposed by various agencies including the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Apache will operate in accordance with the regulations and also avoid accidental loss of solid waste items by maintaining waste management plans, manifesting trash sent to shore, and using special precautions such as covering outside trash bins to prevent accidental loss of solid waste. Special caution will be exercised when handling and disposing of small items and packaging materials, particularly those made of non-biodegradable, environmentally persistent materials such as plastic or glass.

Informational placards will be posted on vessels and every facility that has sleeping or food preparation capabilities. All offshore personnel, including contractors and other support services-related personnel (e.g. helicopter pilots, vessel captains and boat crews) will be indoctrinated on waste procedures, and will view the video, "All Washed Up: The Beach Litter Problem". Thereafter, all personnel will view the marine trash and debris training video annually.

There are no other IPFs (emissions, effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, or wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to shore birds and coastal nesting birds.

#### **4. Coastal Wildlife Refuges**

**Accidents:** West Cameron Block 293 is approximately 28 miles from the Texas Point NWR. Management goals of the NWR are waterfowl habitat management, marsh restoration, providing sanctuary for nesting and wintering seabirds, and providing sandy beach habitat for a variety of wildlife species. IPFs from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to this coastal wildlife refuge are accidents (oil spills) and discarded trash and debris.

Impacts to shore birds and coastal nesting birds and to the beach, was covered in previous sections. Other wildlife species found on the refuges include nutria, rabbits, raccoons, alligators, and loggerhead turtles. Impacts to loggerhead turtles were also covered under a previous section.

It is unlikely that an oil spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water quality). Response capabilities would be implemented, no impacts are expected. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

There are no other IPFs (emissions, effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, or wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to coastal wildlife refuges.

#### **5. Wilderness Areas**

An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities could cause impacts to wilderness areas. However, it is unlikely that an oil spill would occur from the proposed activities (refer to **Item 5**, Water Quality). Due to the distance from the nearest designated wilderness area (> 100 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Apache's Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (refer to information submitted in **Appendix F**).

#### **6. Other Environmental Resources Identified**

None

#### **(C) Impacts on your proposed activities.**

The site-specific environmental conditions have been taken into account for the proposed activities. No impacts are expected on the proposed activities from site-specific environmental conditions.

#### **(D) Alternatives**

No alternatives to the proposed activities were considered to reduce environmental impacts.



### **(E) Mitigation Measures**

No mitigation measures other than those required by regulation will be employed to avoid, diminish, or eliminate potential impacts on environmental resources.

### **(F) Consultation**

No agencies or persons were consulted regarding potential impacts associated with the proposed activities. Therefore, a list of such entities has not been provided.

### **(G) References**

Authors:

- American Petroleum Institute (API). 1989. Effects of offshore petroleum operations on cold water marine mammals: a literature review. Washington, DC: American Petroleum Institute. 385 pp.
- Balazs, G.H. 1985. Impact of ocean debris on marine turtles: entanglement and ingestion. In: Shomura, R.S. and H.O. Yoshida, eds. Proceedings, Workshop on the Fate and Impact of Marine Debris, 26-29 November 1984, Honolulu, HI. U.S. Dept. of Commerce. NOAA Tech. Memo. NOAA-TM-NMFS-SWFC-54. Pp 387-429.
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- Laist, D.W. 1997. Impacts of marine debris: entanglement of marine life in marine debris including a comprehensive list of species with entanglement and ingestion records. In: Coe, J.M. and D.B. Rogers, eds. Marine debris: sources, impacts, and solutions. New York, NY: Springer-Verlag. Pp. 99-139
- Majors, A.P. and A.C. Myrick, Jr. 1990. Effects of noise on animals: implications for dolphins exposed to seal bombs in the eastern tropical Pacific purse-seine fishery—an annotated bibliography. NOAA Administrative Report LJ-90-06.

Marine Mammal Commission. 1999. Annual report to Congress – 1998

Piatt, J.F., C.J. Lensink, W. Butler, M. Kendziorek, and D.R. Nysewander. 1990. Immediate impact of the Exxon Valdez oil spill on marine birds. *The Auk*. 107 (2): 387-397

Vauk, G., E. Hartwig, B. Reineking, and E. Vauk-Hentzelt. 1989. Losses of seabirds by oil pollution at the German North Sea coast. *Topics in Marine Biology*. Ros, J.D, ed. *Scient. Mar.* 53 (2-3): 749-754

Vermeer, K. and R. Vermeer, 1975 Oil threat to birds on the Canadian west coast. *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*. 89:278-298.

Although not cited, the following were utilized in preparing this EIA:

- Hazard Surveys
- MMS EIS's:
  - GOM Deepwater Operations and Activities. Environmental Assessment. MMS 2000-001
  - GOM Central and Western Planning Areas Sales 166 and 168 Final Environmental Impact Statement. MMS 96-0058

**APPENDIX I**  
**COASTAL MANAGEMENT CONSISTENCY INFORMATION**

Coastal Management Consistency is not required for the proposed operations.

## OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Type of OCS Plan: <input type="checkbox"/> Exploration Plan (EP) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development Operations Coordination Document (DOCD)	
Company Name: Apache Corporation	
MMS Operator Number: 00105	
Address: 2000 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 100	
Contact Person: Cheryl Powell	
Houston, TX 77056	
Phone Number: (281) 578-3388	
Email Address: Cheryl.powell@jccteam.com	
Lease(s): OCS-G 04398	Area: WC
Block(s): 293	Project Name (If Applicable): N/A
Objective(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Oil <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Sulphur <input type="checkbox"/> Salt	Onshore Base: Cameron, LA
Distance to Closest Land (Miles): 29	

### Description of Proposed Activities (Mark all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Exploration drilling	<input type="checkbox"/> Development drilling
<input type="checkbox"/> Well completion	<input type="checkbox"/> Installation of production platform
<input type="checkbox"/> Well test flaring (for more than 48 hours)	<input type="checkbox"/> Installation of production facilities
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commence production
<input checked="" 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?	
	Yes X No
Do you propose to use new or unusual technology to conduct your activities?	
	Yes X No
Do you propose any facility that will serve as a host facility for deepwater subsea development?	
	Yes X No
Do you propose any activities that may disturb an MMS-designated high-probability archaeological area?	
	X Yes No
Have all of the surface locations of your proposed activities been previously reviewed and approved by MMS?	
	Yes X No

### Tentative Schedule of Proposed Activities

Proposed Activity	Start Date	End Date	No. of Days
Install lease term pipeline	03/01/06	03/06/06	6
Commence production of Well No. 008	03/07/06	03/07/10	4 years

Description of Drilling Rig		Description of Production Platform	
<input type="checkbox"/> Jackup	<input type="checkbox"/> Drillship	<input checked="" 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"/> Semisubmersible	<input type="checkbox"/> Submersible	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed platform	<input type="checkbox"/> Guyed tower
<input type="checkbox"/> DP Semisubmersible	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Attach Description)	<input type="checkbox"/> Subsea manifold	<input type="checkbox"/> Floating production system
<input type="checkbox"/> 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 (inches)	Length (Feet)
Caisson No. 008, WC293	Platform A, WC294	6.625"	6900'

**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 No. 008				Subsea Completion	
Anchor Radius (if applicable) in feet: N/A				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
	<b>Surface Location</b>		<b>Bottom-Hole Location (For Wells)</b>		
<b>Lease No.</b>	OCS-G 04398		OCS-G 04398		
<b>Area Name</b>	WC		WC		
<b>Block No.</b>	293		293		
<b>Blockline Departures (in feet)</b>	N/S Departure: 4240.00' FNL		N/S Departure:		
	E/W Departure: 1075.00' FWL		E/W Departure:		
<b>Lambert X-Y coordinates</b>	X: 1,274,462.33'		X:		
	Y: 241,969.77'		Y:		
<b>Latitude/Longitude</b>	Latitude: 29° 18' 44.06"		Latitude:		
	Longitude: -93° 36' 35.60"		Longitude:		
	TVD (Feet):		MD (Feet):		Water Depth (Feet): 55'
<b>Anchor Locations for Drilling Rig or Construction Barge (If anchor radius supplied above, not necessary)</b>					
<b>Anchor Name or No.</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Block</b>	<b>X Coordinate</b>	<b>Y Coordinate</b>	<b>Length of Anchor Chain on Seafloor</b>
			X =	Y =	
			X =	Y =	
			X =	Y =	
			X =	Y =	
			X =	Y =	
			X =	Y =	
			X =	Y =	
			X =	Y =	
<b>Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement:</b> 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.					