

## United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Gulf of America OCS Region 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

In Reply Refer To: GM 235D October 23, 2025

Ms. Janet P. Cole Renaissance Offshore, LLC Two Memorial City Plaza 820 Gessner, Suite 760 Houston, Texas 77024

Dear Ms. Cole,

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No. N-10252

Type Initial Exploration Plan

Received November 13, 2024, amended November 15, and November 27, 2024,

modified May 9, and September 19, 2025

Lease(s) OCS-G 37438, Block 179, Vermilion Area (VR)

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of October 23, 2025, in accordance with 30 CFR 550.233(b)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for Caisson No. 001 and Subsea Well A.

In accordance with 30 CFR 556.901(d), additional security may be required for your proposed activities. Prior to conducting activities in which you need to obtain approvals and/or permits described in 30 CFR 550.281(a) from the appropriate District Manager or BSEE Regional Supervisor, you must contact BOEM Risk Management Operations Section by email at <a href="mailto:boemrmos@boem.gov">boemrmos@boem.gov</a> to determine if additional security is required and comply with any demand for this security.

In response to the request accompanying your plan for a hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) classification, the area in which the proposed drilling operations are to be conducted is hereby classified, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.490(c), as "H<sub>2</sub>S absent."

Our review indicates that there is an abandoned pipeline, owned by Walter Oil & Gas Corporation, in the vicinity of Well A that may pose a hazard to your proposed operations. Therefore, take precautions in accordance with Notice to Lessees and Operators No. 2008-G05, Section VI.B, prior to performing operations.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.) is designed to protect threatened and endangered species and applies to activities authorized under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. §§ 1331 et seq.). BOEM, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental

Enforcement (BSEE), and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) consulted on oil and gas program activities in the Gulf of America and NMFS issued a 2025 Biological Opinion and associated Attachments and Appendices that include required mitigations. Conditions of Approval (COA) derived from this consultation ensure ESA compliance.

ESA consultation documents and required mitigations covering oil and gas activities in the Gulf of America, can be found here: <a href="https://www.boem.gov/regions/gulf-america-ocs-region/oil-and-gas-esa-consultations-and-protocols">https://www.boem.gov/regions/gulf-america-ocs-region/oil-and-gas-esa-consultations-and-protocols</a>. You must comply with the protective measures for all activities conducted pursuant to the plan. Activities conducted in association with the subject approval must adhere to these COAs, including all reporting requirements therein.

The following species protective measures found in the link (<a href="https://www.boem.gov/oil-gas-energy/2025-nmfs-biop-protocolspdf">https://www.boem.gov/oil-gas-energy/2025-nmfs-biop-protocolspdf</a>) are applicable for your proposed activities. The numbering below corresponds to the numbering found in the linked document entitled *Endangered Species Act Protocols per the 2025 Biological and Conference Opinion on the Federally Regulated Oil and Gas Program in the Gulf of America*:

- A.0 Compliance with Biological Opinion Terms and Conditions and Reasonable and Prudent Measures
- A.1 Operational National Mitigation Protocols for Geophysical Surveys
- A.2 Marine Debris Protocol
- A.3 Vessel Strike Avoidance and Injured and/or Dead Aquatic Protected Species Reporting Protocols
- A.4 In-water Line Precaution Protocol
- A.6 Vessel Transit within the Rice's Whale Area as identified in the 2020 Biological Opinion's Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (2020 RWA)
- A.7 Sea Turtle Resuscitation Guidelines Protocol
- A.9 Pile Driving Monitoring and Reporting Requirements Protocol

These measures are designed to promote environmental protection, consistent environmental policy, compliance with environmental laws, and safety.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this approval, please contact Tehirah Barkum at (504) 736-7504 or Tehirah.barkum@boem.gov.

Sincerely,

for Bernadette Thomas Regional Supervisor Office of Leasing and Plans