



United States Department of the Interior

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394



In Reply Refer To: MS 5231

December 15, 2005

Ms. Sunna Denny
Newfield Exploration Company
363 North Sam Houston Parkway E.
Suite 2020
Houston, Texas 77060

Dear Ms. Denny:

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No. N-08478
Type Initial Exploration Plan
Received June 23, 2005, amended August 3, 2005
Lease(s) OCS-G 27121, Block 318, Eugene Island Area

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of December 6, 2005, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.203(i)(1).

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

Exercise caution while drilling due to indications of shallow gas.

In response to the request accompanying your plan for a hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) classification, the area in which the proposed drilling operations are to be conducted is hereby classified, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.490(c), as "H₂S absent."

Our review indicates that there is a pipeline in the vicinity of Wells A, C, D, and E that may pose a hazard to your proposed operations. Therefore, take precautions in accordance with Notice to Lessees and Operators No. 98-20, Section IV.B, prior to performing operations.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this approval, please contact Elmo Cooper at (504) 731-7810.

Sincerely,

Michael Tolbert
for Donald C. Howard
Regional Supervisor
Field Operations

PIRS
JAN 10 2006

