



# 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 12, 2005

Ms. Lynne W. Foote  
Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc.  
5205 N. O'Connor Boulevard  
Suite 900  
Irving, Texas 75039-3746

Dear Ms. Foote:

Reference is made to the following plan:

|             |                                          |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|
| Control No. | N-08564                                  |
| Type        | Initial Exploration Plan                 |
| Received    | October 3, 2005                          |
| Lease(s)    | OCS-G 26502, Block A 203, Galveston Area |

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

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

Exercise caution while drilling due to indications of possible shallow gas in Wells A, B, C, and D and faulting in Well A.

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."

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

Sincerely,

  
for Donald C. Howard  
Regional Supervisor  
Field Operations

PIRS  
JAN 10 2006

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