



# 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

February 5, 2026

Mr. Jarrett L. Hawkins  
Shell Offshore Inc.  
Post Office Box 61933  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70161

Dear Mr. Hawkins,

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No. S-8203

Type Supplemental Exploration Plan

Received November 13, 2025, amended December 1, 2, and 17, 2025

Lease(s) OCS-G 05868, Block 809, Mississippi Canyon (MC)

OCS-G 06981, Block 808, Mississippi Canyon (MC)

OCS-G 12166, Block 765, Mississippi Canyon (MC)

The Minerals Management Service Mississippi Canyon Block 854 Unit Agreement Number is 754393012.

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of February 5, 2026, in accordance with 30 CFR 550.233(b)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for Subsea Wells P013 ALT1 and P013 ALT2 in MC Block 809, Subsea Well P009A in MC Block 808, and Subsea Well P013 in MC Block 765.

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 [boemrmos@boem.gov](mailto:boemrmos@boem.gov) to determine if additional security is required and comply with any demand for this security.

The projected NO<sub>x</sub> emissions amounts in your plan were calculated using fuel consumption rates. Maintain monthly records of the total annual fuel consumption for the drilling rig only with a limit of 3,548,697 gallons/year and provide the information to the BOEM Regional Supervisor, Office of Leasing and Plans, Plans Section at [BOEMGulfPlans@boem.gov](mailto:BOEMGulfPlans@boem.gov) annually by February 1st of each year, beginning in the year 2027. If no activities were conducted during a calendar year, provide a statement to that effect in lieu of the required records. If at any time during your activities these records indicate that your NO<sub>x</sub> annual emissions may exceed the annual limit approved in your plan or the total annual fuel consumption limit, you must immediately prepare

a revised plan pursuant to 30 CFR § 550.283 to include the recalculated emissions amounts. You shall not proceed with the actions that could cause the potential annual increase in emissions until the revised plan has been submitted to and approved by BOEM.

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 above 11,500 feet true vertical depth (TVD) (Miocene sands) is hereby classified, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.490(c), as H<sub>2</sub>S Absent. However, the area in which the proposed drilling operations are to be conducted below 11,500 feet TVD (Miocene sands) is hereby classified, in accordance with 30 CFR 250.490(c), as H<sub>2</sub>S Unknown. Accordingly, comply with the appropriate requirements of 30 CFR 250.490.

Your proposed operations are located in an area which was used in the 1970's as an industrial waste dump site. Please be advised that precautions should therefore be taken while conducting operations that involve any disturbance of the sea floor in order to avoid the potential for possible hazards. If during normal operations you discover any potential hazard within 10 meters of your drill site, you must halt operations and immediately contact BSEE at [waterqualitycompliance@bsee.gov](mailto:waterqualitycompliance@bsee.gov) and call (985) 722-7902 for additional guidance.

Exercise caution while drilling due to indications of shallow gas and potential shallow water flow.

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: <https://www.boem.gov/regions/gulf-america-ocs-region/oil-and-gas-esa-consultations-and-protocols>. 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 (<https://www.boem.gov/oil-gas-energy/2025-nmfs-biop-protocols.pdf>) 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.5 Moon Pool Monitoring 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.

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](mailto:Tehirah.barkum@boem.gov).

Sincerely,

for      Bernadette Thomas  
            Regional Supervisor  
            Office of Leasing and Plans