



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394

In Reply Refer To: MS 5231

November 15, 2011

Mr. Ross Frazer
ATP Oil & Gas Corporation
4600 Post Oak Place
Suite 100
Houston, Texas 77027-9726

Dear Mr. Frazer:

Reference is made to the following plan:

Control No.	N-09577
Type	Initial Exploration Plan
Received	May 24, 2011, amended June 17 and 27, July 12, 13 and 21, August 9, September 2 and 27, and October 12 and 27, 2011
Lease(s)	OCS-G 22896, Block 710, Mississippi Canyon Area (MC)

You are hereby notified that the approval of the subject plan has been granted as of November 15, 2011, in accordance with 30 CFR 550.233(b)(1).

This approval includes the activities proposed for Subsea Wells A and B.

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

Exploration activities have been approved for Lease OCS-G 24105, MC Block 755, which could potentially interfere with your proposed activities. Therefore, you should contact Mr. Cary Bradford, Nexen Petroleum USA, 5601 Granite Parkway, Suite 1400, Plano, Texas, (972) 450-4600, prior to commencement of your activities, in order to avoid any potential conflicts.

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."

You have stated in your plan that your proposed activities are in the vicinity of areas that could support high-density chemosynthetic communities. Use a state-of-the-art positioning system (e.g., differential global positioning system) on your anchor handling vessel to ensure that any seafloor disturbance resulting from your use of anchors (including that caused by the anchors, anchor chains, and wire ropes) does not occur within 250 feet of such areas (see the enclosed map which depicts the areas). Submit plats for Wells A and B (with a common drill center), which depict the "as-placed" location of all anchors and any associated anchor chains and wire

ropes on the seafloor, at a scale of 1 inch = 1,000 feet with DGPS accuracy, to this office at the same time you submit your End of Operations report (Form BSEE-125) to the appropriate BSEE GOMR District Office, to demonstrate that the features were not physically impacted by these anchoring activities.

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

Sincerely,

for Robert Sebastian
Regional Supervisor
Leasing and Plans

Enclosure