

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION**

85-02

February 4, 1985

**NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL AND GAS LEASES IN THE  
OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION WHICH CONTAIN  
STIPULATION NO. 5—RESTRICTION OF EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES**

**Effect of Drilling "Window" Approvals**

This Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) is provided pursuant to Stipulation No. 5 made a part of certain leases issued pursuant to the January 5, 1984, lease offering in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico, to 30 CFR 250.12(a)(1)(iii) concerning suspensions of operations, to 30 CFR 250.12(d) concerning lease extensions, and to 30 CFR 218.154(a) and (c) concerning payment of rentals and lease anniversary date.

Stipulation No. 5 states in part, "Approval of some APD's may be delayed as a result of ongoing exploration in the military impact zone. This action may be necessary to provide for location of structures in which exploration can be safely accomplished without interruption to or interference with the national defense missions or the creation of unacceptable risks to life and property."

On December 20, 1984, a letter was forwarded to all applicable lessees as notification, pursuant to Stipulation No. 5, that Applications for Permit to Drill (APD's) to implement approved Plans of Exploration (POE's) within a specific drilling "window" for a specific time period would be utilized as the means of approving the timing of placement and location of surface structures associated with exploratory drilling on affected leases and for maximizing efficient exploration and minimizing conflicts to Department of Defense activities.

This NTL is provided to notify applicable lessees (see attached list of leases containing Stipulation No. 5 in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico) of the effect of fixing these drilling "windows":

1. Pursuant to 30 CFR 250.12(a)(1)(iii), a suspension of operations will be directed and will be in effect for all leases in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico which were issued pursuant to the January 5, 1984, lease offering that contain Stipulation No. 5 and which are not located within an approved drilling "window." Similar suspensions will likewise be directed by separate letters of notification for all such leases not included in a future drilling "window" and shall be effective as of the date of the opening of the drilling "window." Any such suspension of operations shall terminate when the lease is included in an approved drilling "window" pursuant to 30 CFR 250.12(d)(2).

2. Pursuant to 30 CFR 250.12(d)(1), the term of any affected lease will be extended for a period of time equivalent to the period that the suspension of operations is in effect.

3. Pursuant to and consistent with the purpose of 30 CFR 218.154(a), no payment of rental or minimum royalty shall be required for or during the period of suspension.

4. Pursuant to 30 CFR 218.154(c), if the lease anniversary date falls within a period of suspension of operations for which no rental or minimum royalty payment is required, the prorated rentals or minimum royalties are due and payable as of the date the suspension of operations terminates. The anniversary date of a lease shall not change by reason of any period of lease suspension or rental or royalty relief resulting therefrom.

[signed] John L. Rankin  
Regional Director  
Minerals Management Service  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

Attachment

Approved:

[signed] John B. Rigg  
Associate Director for Offshore  
Minerals Management  
Minerals Management Service

Date February 4, 1985

EASTERN GULF OF MEXICO  
LEASE OFFERING  
LEASES WITH STIPULATION NO. 5

January 5, 1984

EFFECTIVE DATE AND EXPIRATION DATE

2/1/84 - 1/31/89

OCS-G 6391	CS-G 6430	OCS-G 6457
6392	6431	6458
6393	6432	6461
6396	6433	6462
6401	6435	6463
6402	6436	6466
6408	6438	6467
6409	6440	6469
6413	6442	6470
6414	6443	6471
6415	6444	6472
6416	6447	6473
6417	6448	6474
6418	6449	6475
6420	6450	6476
6421	6451	6477
6422	6452	6479
6423	6453	6482
6426	6454	6483
6428	6455	6484
6429	6456	6485

3/1/84 - 2/28/89

OCS-G 6412	OCS-G 6459	OCS-G 6468
6419	6460	6478
6434	6464	6480
6437	6465	6481