



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
Alaska OCS Region
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-5823

JUN 30 2015

Susan Childs, Alaska Venture Support Integrator, Manager
Shell Exploration and Production
3601 C Street, Suite 1000
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Dear Ms. Childs:

On June 16 and 17, 2015, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement - Alaska Region (BSEE) oversaw the deployment and pressure testing of Shell's capping stack. This critical piece of source control equipment is intended to be available in the Chukchi Sea aboard the vessel *Fennica*. The deployment went smoothly, except for an interruption to address a faulty sensor in the A-frame used to lift the capping stack. That issue was addressed quickly using crew and parts on the *Fennica*, and the exercise continued as planned.

Both the deployment and the pressure testing were successful, and the capping stack is hereby approved for use in association with exploratory drilling operations on the Alaska Outer Continental Shelf during the 2015 drilling season. This approval does not constitute approval of Applications for Permits to Drill, which are currently undergoing review by BSEE.

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Pendergast (Regional Supervisor, Field Operations) at (907) 334-5311, or via e-mail at kevin.pendergast@bsee.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark Fesmire, PE JD
Regional Director

cc: David Moore (BSEE-OSPD)
David Johnston (BOEM)