UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT, REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS OF FEDERAL OIL, GAS, AND SULPHUR LEASES, OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF, GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION

NTL No. 2010-G07

Effective Date: December 1, 2010 Expiration Date: November 30, 2011

Drilling Windows, Eastern Gulf of Mexico

This Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) supersedes NTL No. 2009-G38 on this subject. It provides a new schedule for the drilling window program and a website address for a map that shows the areas covered by the drilling window program.

Drilling Window Program

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (GOMR), after consultation with the U.S. Air Force, established a drilling window program in 1991 for exploration activities on oil and gas leases that were obtained through Lease Sales Nos. 79, 94, and 116 and that contain Lease Stipulation No. 5. In accordance with this lease stipulation, the drilling window program ensures that exploration activities can be conducted predictably, orderly, and safely without interfering with scheduled military activities or jeopardizing the national defense mission.

The drilling window program divides the subject leases into four groups designated as Groups "A", "B", "D", and "E." For a map showing these geographic areas, refer to the BOEMRE GOMR Internet Web site at

<u>http://www.gomr.boemre.gov/homepg/regulate/regs/ntls/2008NTLs/drillwindow.pdf</u>. The Attachment to this NTL provides an up-to-date list of the leased blocks in these groups that includes the number of days remaining in the primary term of these leases.

Drilling Window Schedule

Under the drilling window scheme established in 1991 and in place since that time, the BOEMRE GOMR usually opens one group of leases every three months. Since the last established drilling window, the Eighty-eighth Drilling Window, closed on November 30, 2010, the BOEMRE GOMR, in consultation with the Air Force, hereby establishes the following schedule:

Group "E" will open as the Eighty-ninth Drilling Window effective December 1, 2010. Group "A" will open as the Ninetieth Drilling Window effective March 1, 2011. Group "B" will open as the Ninety-first Drilling Window effective June 1, 2011. Group "D" will open as the Ninety-second Drilling Window effective September 1, 2011.

If the BOEMRE GOMR receives any Exploration Plans or Development and Production Plans proposing operations in any of these groups of leases, we will consult with the Air Force and determine what changes, if any, we will make to this schedule to accommodate all those concerned.

Effect of Drilling Window Approvals

This section is provided according to 30 CFR 250.173(b) concerning suspensions of operations in the interest of national security or defense, 30 CFR 250.169(a) concerning lease term extensions, and 30 CFR 1218.154(b) and (c) concerning payment of rentals and lease anniversary date.

A. Pursuant to 30 CFR 250.173(b), the BOEMRE GOMR will direct a suspension of operations (SOO) and it will be in effect for all oil and gas leases that were obtained through Lease Sales Nos. 79, 94, and 116, contain Lease Stipulation No. 5, are east of 87.5 degrees W longitude, and are not located within an open 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 will be effective as of the date of the opening of the drilling window. Any such SOO will terminate when the lease is included in an open drilling window pursuant to 30 CFR 250.170(e).

B. According to 30 CFR 250.169(a), the term of any affected lease will be extended for a period of time equal to the period that the SOO is in effect.

C. According to 30 CFR 1218.154(b), no payment of rental or minimum royalty will be required for or during the period of the SOO.

D. According to 30 CFR 1218.154(c), if the lease anniversary date occurs within a period that an SOO is in effect for which no rental or minimum royalty payments are required, the prorated rentals or minimum royalties are due and payable as of the date the SOO terminates. The anniversary date of the lease will not change by reason of any period of lease suspension or rental or royalty relief resulting therefrom.

Guidance Document Statement

The BOEMRE issues NTL's as guidance documents in accordance with 30 CFR 250.103 to clarify, supplement, and provide more detail about certain BOEMRE regulatory requirements and to outline the information you provide in your various submittals. Under that authority, this NTL sets forth a policy on and an interpretation of a regulatory requirement that provides a clear and consistent approach to complying with that requirement. However, if you wish to use an

alternative approach for compliance, you may do so, after you receive approval from the appropriate BOEMRE office under 30 CFR 250.141.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement

The information referred to in this NTL is intended to provide clarification, description, or interpretation of requirements contained in 30 CFR part 250, Subparts A and B, and 30 CFR part 1218. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements in these regulations under OMB control numbers 1010-0114 for 30 CFR part 250, Subpart A; 1010-0151 for 30 CFR part 250, Subpart B; and 1010-0107 for 30 CFR part 1218. This NTL does not impose any other information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

Contact

Please address any questions on the content of this NTL to Mr. Michael Tolbert by telephone at (504) 736-2867 or by email at <u>michael.tolbert@boemre.gov</u>.

[original signed]

Lars T. Herbst Regional Director

Attachment

DRILLING WINDOWS NTL REPORT

GROUP	LEASE	AREA	BLOCK	Days Used	Days Remaining
A					
	G10413	PE	945	1583	243
	G10414	PE	946	1583	243
	G10417	PE	988	1583	243
В					
	G10404	PE	867	1406	328
	G10405	PE	868	1406	328
	G10408	PE	911	1406	328
	G10409	PE	912	1406	328
	G10410	PE	913	1406	328
	G10415	PE	957	1406	328
D					
	G10426	DD	253	1637	189
	G10427	DD	297	1637	189
	G10430	AP	177	1637	189
	G10431	AP	178	1637	189
	G10432	AP	179	1637	189
	G10433	AP	222	1637	189
	G10434	AP	223	1637	189
	G10435	AP	266	1637	189
E					
	G08361	FM	411	1494	332
	G08362	FM	412	1494	332
	G08363	FM	455	1494	332
	G08364	FM	456	1494	332
	G08365	FM	499	1494	332
	G08366	FM	500	1494	332
	G08367	FM	543	1494	332
	G08368	FM	587	1494	332
	G10446	DC	297	1522	304
	G10447	DC	298	1522	304
	G10448	DC	299	1522	304

GROUP	LEASE	AREA	BLOCK	Days Used	Days Remaining
	G10449	DC	343	1522	304
	G10450	DC	344	1522	304
	G10451	DC	349	1522	304
	G10452	DC	387	1522	304
	G10453	DC	388	1522	304
	G10454	DC	393	1522	304
	G10455	DC	426	1522	304
	G10456	DC	432	1522	304
	G10459	DC	470	1522	304
	G10460	DC	471	1522	304
	G10461	DC	475	1522	304
	G10462	DC	477	1522	304
	G10463	DC	515	1522	304
	G10464	DC	519	1522	304
	G10465	DC	560	1522	304
	G10466	DC	561	1522	304
	G10471	DC	829	1522	304
	G10472	DC	830	1522	304
	G10473	DC	831	1522	304
	G10477	DC	875	1522	304
	G10484	FM	309	1522	304
	G10485	FM	353	1522	304
	G10493	LL	382	1402	2251
	G10494	LL	383	1402	2251
	G10495	LL	427	1402	2251
	G10496	LL	511	1402	2251
	G10497	LL	737	1402	2251
	G10498	EL	273	1340	486
	G10499	EL	274	1340	486
	G10500	EL	317	1340	2313
	G10501	EL	318	1340	486
	G10502	EL	319	1340	486
	G10503	EL	361	1340	2313
	G10504	EL	362	1340	486
	G10505	EL	363	1340	486
	G10506	EL	364	1340	486
	010000		007	10-10	400

GROUP	LEASE	AREA	BLOCK	Days Used	Days Remaining
	G10507	EL	406	1340	2313
	G10508	EL	407	1340	486
	G10509	EL	408	1340	486
	G10510	EL	452	1340	486
	G10511	EL	840	1340	2313
	G10512	EL	841	1340	2313
	G10513	EL	884	1340	2313
	G10514	EL	885	1340	2313