

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT (BOEM)  
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT (BSEE)  
GULF OF MEXICO OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF (OCS) REGION**

NOTICE TO LESSEES AND OPERATORS (NTL) OF FEDERAL OIL, GAS, AND  
SULPHUR LEASES IN THE OCS, GULF OF MEXICO OCS REGION

Joint NTL No. 2014-G01

Effective Date: June 1, 2014  
Expiration Date: February 28, 2015

**Drilling Windows, Eastern Planning Area,  
Gulf of Mexico**

This Notice to Lessees and Operators (NTL) supersedes BOEM NTL No. 2012-G01 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 Minerals Management Service, a predecessor agency to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), first established a drilling windows program in 1991 after consultation with the U.S. Air Force. This program created periods of time during which exploration activities could occur on certain oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region (GOMR) that were obtained through Lease Sales Nos. 79, 94, and 116, and that contain Lease Stipulation No. 5. In accordance with Lease Stipulation No. 5, the drilling window program for sales 79, 94 and 116 leases establishes scheduled drilling windows to ensure that exploration activities can be conducted predictably, safely, and in an orderly manner, without interfering with scheduled military activities or jeopardizing the national defense mission. Stipulations in subsequent lease sales obviate the need to apply this NTL to leases issued after Lease Sale 116.

In this NTL the drilling window program divides the subject leases into groups by geographic area. Drilling windows are being established through February 28, 2015 for Groups "B," "D," and "E" as described below. For a map showing these geographic areas, refer to the BOEM GOMR Internet Web site at <http://www.boem.gov/Eastern-Gulf-of-Mexico-Drilling-Windows/>. 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 initial period of each lease.

## **Drilling Window Schedule**

Under the drilling window scheme established in 1991, and in place since that time, the BOEM GOMR usually opens a drilling window for one group of leases every three months. The last established drilling window closed on November 30, 2013. Therefore, BOEM GOMR, in consultation with the U.S. Air Force, hereby establishes the following drilling windows schedule:

- Group "B" will open as the 101<sup>st</sup> Drilling Window, effective June 1, 2014, closing August 31, 2014.
- Group "D" will open as the 102<sup>nd</sup> Drilling Window, effective September 1, 2014, closing November 30, 2014.
- Group "E" will open as the 103<sup>rd</sup> Drilling Window, effective December 1, 2014, closing February 28, 2015.

If the BOEM GOMR receives any Exploration Plans or Development and Production Plans proposing operations outside of the drilling windows established above, we will consult with the U.S. Air Force and determine what changes, if any, we will make to this schedule to accommodate all those concerned.

## **Effect of Drilling Window Approvals**

Lessees are notified of the following:

A. The BSEE GOMR will direct suspensions of operations (SOOs), pursuant to 30 CFR 250.173(b), that 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 within an open drilling window.

B. In accordance with 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. In accordance with 30 CFR 1218.154(b), no payment of rental or minimum royalty will be required for or during the period of the SOO.

D. In accordance with 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 BSEE and BOEM issue NTLs as guidance documents in accordance with 30 CFR 250.103 and 30 CFR 550.103 to clarify and provide more detail about certain 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 to provide a clear and consistent approach to complying with requirement.

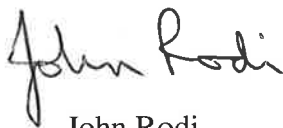
## Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 Statement

The information referenced in this NTL provides clarification, description, and interpretation of requirements contained in 30 CFR 550, Subparts A and B. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the information collection requirements in these regulations under OMB Control Numbers 1010-0114 and 1010-0151, respectively. Note that references to 30 CFR 250, Subpart A, and 30 CFR 1218, Subpart D, do not involve information collection. 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 BOEM content of this NTL to the BOEM GOMR Plans Section by telephone at (504) 736-2545 or by email at [Plans@boem.gov](mailto:Plans@boem.gov).

Please address any questions on the BSEE content of this NTL to the BSEE GOMR Development and Unitization Section at (504) 736-2662.



John Rodi  
Regional Director  
BOEM



Lars Herbst  
Regional Director  
BSEE

Attachment

# DRILLING WINDOWS NTL REPORT

Group	Lease	Area	Block	Days Used	Days Remaining In Initial Period
B	G10404	PE	867	1682	52
B	G10405	PE	868	1682	52
B	G10408	PE	911	1682	52
B	G10409	PE	912	1682	52
B	G10410	PE	913	1682	52
B	G10415	PE	957	1682	52
D	G10426	DD	253	1728	98
D	G10427	DD	297	1728	98
D	G10430	AP	177	1728	98
D	G10431	AP	178	1728	98
D	G10432	AP	179	1728	98
D	G10433	AP	222	1728	98
D	G10434	AP	223	1728	98
D	G10435	AP	266	1728	98
E	G08361	FM	411	1765	61
E	G08362	FM	412	1765	61
E	G08363	FM	455	1765	61
E	G08364	FM	456	1765	61
E	G08365	FM	499	1765	61
E	G08366	FM	500	1765	61
E	G08367	FM	543	1765	61
E	G08368	FM	587	1765	61
E	G10446	DC	297	1793	33
E	G10447	DC	298	1793	33
E	G10448	DC	299	1793	33
E	G10449	DC	343	1793	33
E	G10450	DC	344	1793	33
E	G10451	DC	349	1793	33
E	G10452	DC	387	1793	33
E	G10453	DC	388	1793	33
E	G10454	DC	393	1793	33
E	G10455	DC	426	1793	33
E	G10456	DC	432	1793	123
E	G10459	DC	470	1793	33

E	G10460	DC	471	1793	33
E	G10461	DC	475	1793	123
E	G10462	DC	477	1793	123
E	G10463	DC	515	1793	33
E	G10464	DC	519	1793	33
E	G10465	DC	560	1793	33
E	G10466	DC	561	1793	33
E	G10471	DC	829	1793	33
E	G10472	DC	830	1793	33
E	G10473	DC	831	1793	33
E	G10477	DC	875	1793	33
E	G10484	FM	309	1793	33
E	G10485	FM	353	1793	33
E	G10493	LL	382	1673	1980
E	G10494	LL	383	1673	1980
E	G10495	LL	427	1673	1980
E	G10496	LL	511	1673	1980
E	G10497	LL	737	1673	1980
E	G10498	EL	273	1611	215
E	G10499	EL	274	1611	215
E	G10500	EL	317	1611	2042
E	G10501	EL	318	1611	215
E	G10502	EL	319	1611	215
E	G10503	EL	361	1611	2042
E	G10504	EL	362	1611	215
E	G10505	EL	363	1611	215
E	G10506	EL	364	1611	215
E	G10507	EL	406	1611	2042
E	G10508	EL	407	1611	215
E	G10509	EL	408	1611	215
E	G10510	EL	452	1611	215
E	G10511	EL	840	1611	2042
E	G10512	EL	841	1611	2042
E	G10513	EL	884	1611	2042
E	G10514	EL	885	1611	2042