



**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**  
631 Howard Street, San Francisco 94105 — (415) 543-8555



CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

Consistency Certification No. CC-5-79  
(Chevron USA)

3 Month Period Ends: Nov. 9, 1979

6 Month Period Ends: Feb. 9, 1980

APPLICANT FOR FEDERAL PERMITS: Chevron USA, Inc.

FEDERAL PERMITS FOR WHICH COMMISSION  
CONCURRENCE WITH APPLICANT'S  
CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION IS REQUIRED: U.S. Geological Survey Exploratory Well  
Drilling Permits; OCS Exploration Plan

FEDERAL PERMIT ACTIVITY LOCATION: In the Santa Barbara Channel on OCS Parcel  
215 located within the Channel approximately  
8 miles from the city of Ventura and 6 miles  
west of the Montalvo coast (see Exhibits 1 & 2)

FEDERAL PERMIT ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION: Drilling one well on one of two locations,  
P-0215-3 or P-0215-4, to explore for oil  
and gas from an anchored drillship, the  
Glomar Grand Isle (Exhibit 3)

PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE: Public hearing scheduled for the Commission's  
meeting in Los Angeles, September 18-19,  
with possible vote at October 2-3 meeting in  
San Francisco

SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS:

1. Chevron Environmental Report (Exploration) for proposed exploratory wells P-0215-3 and P-0215-4
2. Chevron Exploration Plan for Santa Clara Unit Well P-0215-3

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Staff Note: Consistency

Under regulations which implement the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act, the United States Geological Survey, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Corps of Engineers cannot grant a permit for any activity described in an Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Plan of Exploration until the Coastal Commission concurs with a certification by the oil company applicant that the activity is consistent with the California Coastal Management Program (CMP). The consistency provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Act went into effect for California on August 31, 1978, and the first Commission action implementing those provisions was the October 17, 1978 concurrence with the Chevron consistency certification for exploratory wells No. P-0306-1 and P-0309-1 in the Gulf of Santa Catalina.

1. Project Description. The proposed project is the drilling of one exploratory well in the Santa Barbara Channel from the drillship Glomar Grand Isle (Exhibit 3) on one of two locations within lease block P-0215 (P-0215-3 or P-0215-4; Exhibits 1 & 2). Chevron plans to make the decision regarding which of the two locations to drill after they obtain the results from well number P-0215-2 which is presently drilling. If well P-0215-3 is used it will be drilled in 121 feet of water to a total depth of 8500 ft. beneath the ocean floor. If well P-0215-4 is used it will be drilled in 90 feet of water to a total depth of 10,000 feet beneath the ocean floor. The total operation, including evaluation and abandonment procedures could last approximately 90 days. Both locations are outside the Santa Barbara Vessel Traffic Separation Scheme.

2. Applicant's Consistency Certification and Findings. Chevron states that "The proposed activities described in detail in this OCS exploration plan do not significantly affect the coastal zone of the State of California. The proposed activities comply with the State of California's Coastal Management Program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such program." Chevron states that the impact of drilling one exploratory well is "negligible in magnitude and temporary in nature."

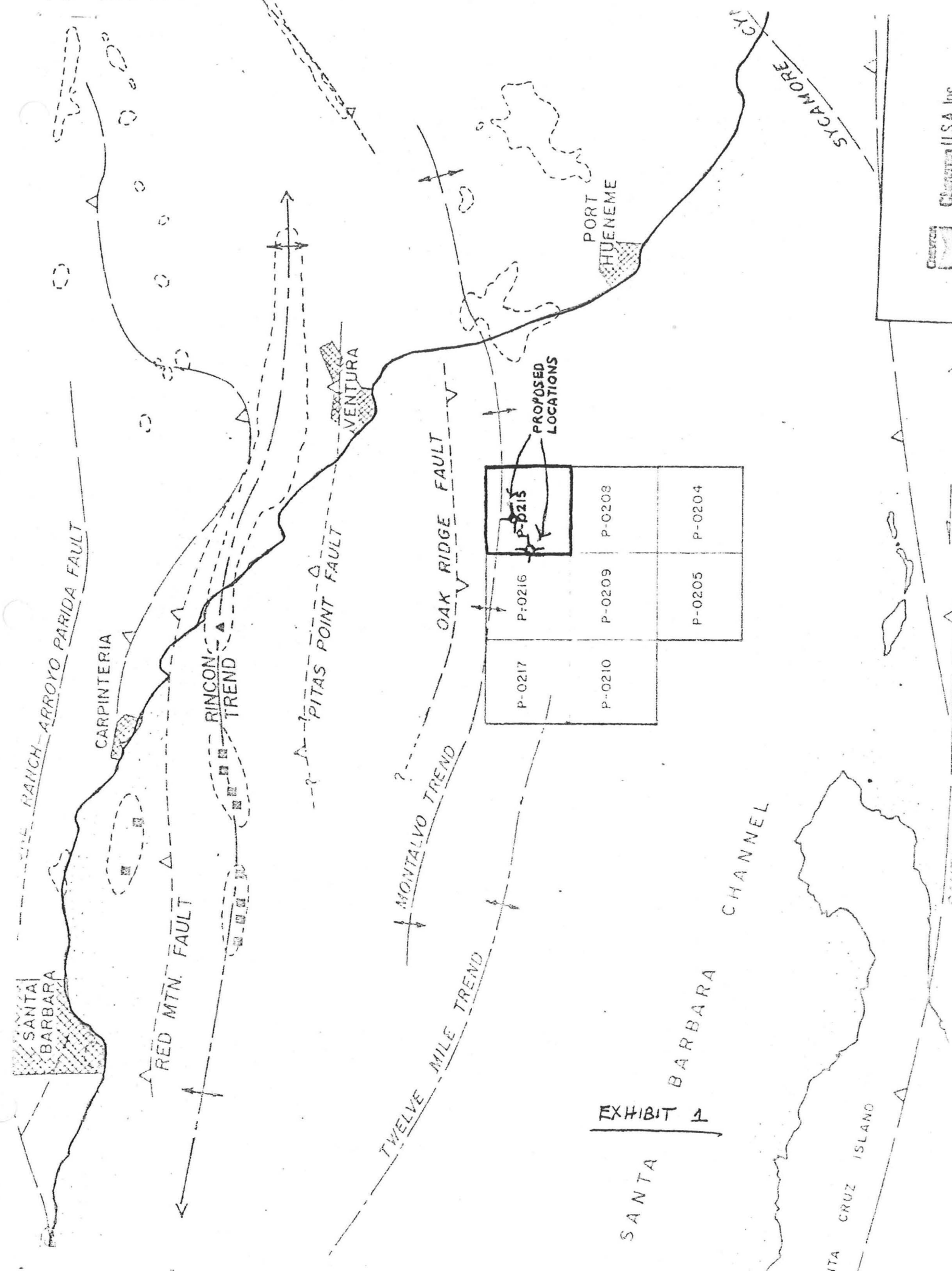
Chevron further finds that their Oil Spill and Emergency Contingency Plan protects against the spillage of crude oil, gas, petroleum products, and hazardous substances and provides effective containment and cleanup facilities and procedures for any accidental spills which may occur. Chevron states that the Contingency Plan complies with U.S. Geological Survey Pacific Region OCS Order No. 7 regulating oil spill equipment and procedures for OCS operations. Chevron questions whether Section 30233 of the Coastal Act, cited in Chapter 3 of the CMP, addressing the spillage of crude oil, gas, petroleum products and hazardous substances, is applicable to exploratory well drilling, which Chevron contends does not have a significant effect on the coastal zone.

3. Issues Raised in State Agencies' Review of Consistency Certification. As a routine procedure, staff circulates a proposed OCS Plan to several State agencies for technical review and comment. These comments are incorporated in the staff's recommendation to the Commission on the consistency certification of the OCS Plan. Staff received comments from the Department of Fish and Game and the State Lands Commission on this Plan of Exploration which raise several issues not addressed by Chevron in their Consistency Certification and Plan of Exploration. These issues should be resolved before a concurrence can be given to the Consistency Certification.

First, Section 30232 of the Coastal Act requires that adequate measures be taken to protect against the spillage of crude oil. There is no mention in Chevron's proposed Oil Spill Contingency Plan that a boat to deploy the containment boom carried on the drill ship would be continuously available, or at least within 15 minutes of the drill site. This has been a requirement of the Coastal Commission in previous consistency actions on Plans of Exploration.

Second, detailed information is lacking on anticipated mud weights, casings cementing, pore pressures, and fracture gradients, all needed to evaluate specific hazards expected to be encountered at this particular site. The Environmental Report of the U.S. Geological Survey on this POE states that abnormal pressures and loss of circulation have occurred at this location.

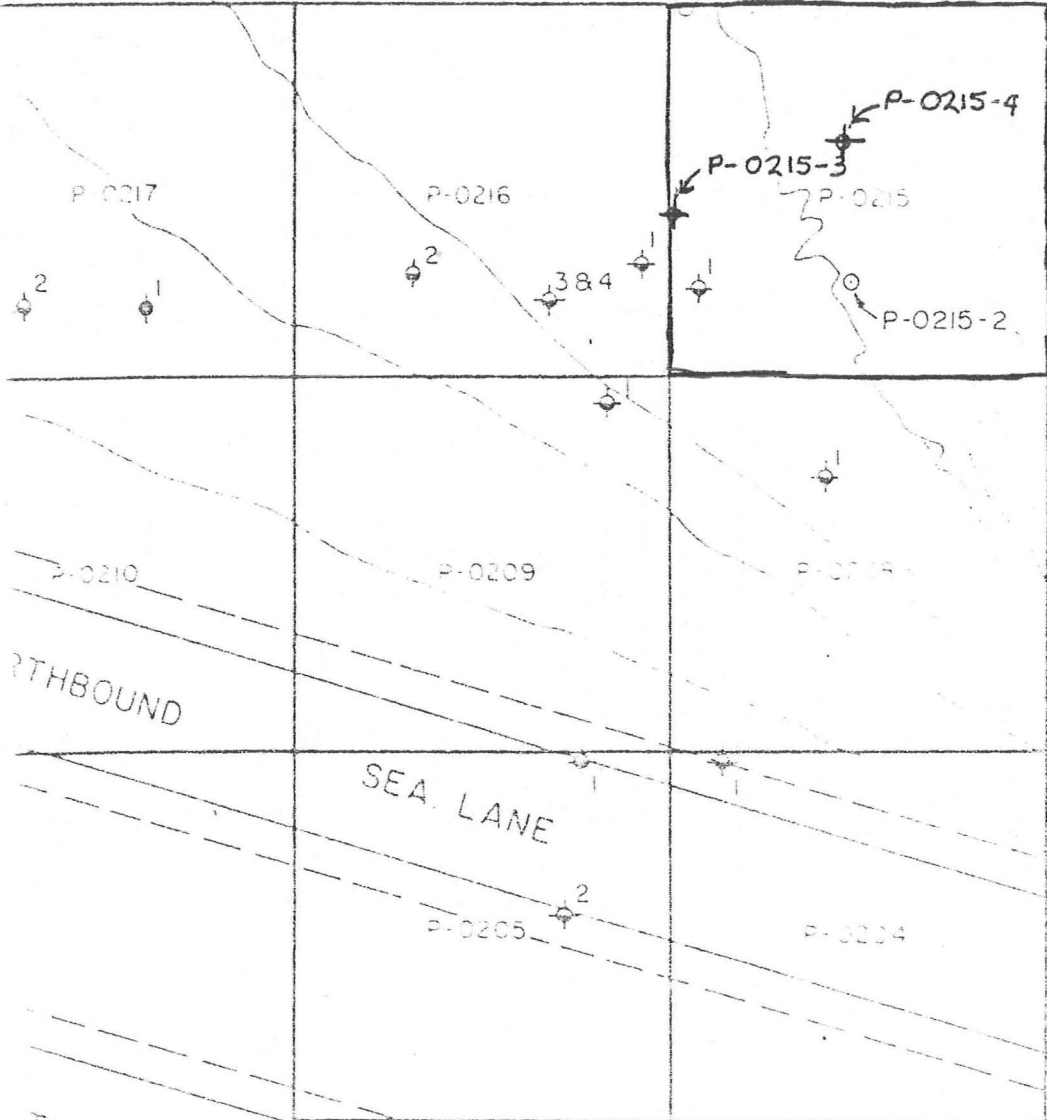
Third, the proposed location for Well No. 4 is within 3 miles of the State's tideland boundary and contains a geologic structure that could extend onto State lands. The OCS Lands Act Amendments, in Section 26(d)(2), provides for the inspection by a State's designated recipient for proprietary data of the pertinent technical information "regarding any activity adjacent to such State". Exploratory drilling at this location is such an activity. The State Lands Commission, as the official State recipient for confidential information, requests that these data be forwarded to them, because the information provided in the Consistency Certification and Plan of Exploration is inadequate to determine the possibility of drainage of State lands.



**EXHIBIT 1**

SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL

'60,320



Legend

- Well Location
- ◐ Uncompleted Idle Well
- ⊗ Uncompleted Abandoned Well
- ◑ Completed Idle Well

EXHIBIT 2

FIGURE  
 INDEX MAP  
 SANTA CLAY  
 WITH  
 LIMITED BATHYMETRY  
 SCALE: 1" = 8000'

500,000 chain used with 2 1/4" wire rope.

**Anchor Winches:**

4 double wildcat with 1000' 2 1/2" galvanized wire, diesel driven.

**Electric Power:**

3 — 500 KW AC General Electric generators, 2 independently driven by one Caterpillar D-398 Series B diesel engine, 3rd couples to No. 6 DC generator.

1 — 250 KW AC emergency generator driven by Caterpillar D-343 diesel engine.

**Cranes:**

1 — Link Belt TC-108, 40 ton, diesel

1 — Link Belt TC-48, 15 ton, diesel

**Auxiliary Pumps:**

2 Fuel pumps

2 Drillwater pumps

2 Fresh water circulating pumps

2 Salt water cooling pumps

2 Fire Pumps

2 Bilge pumps

1 Sanitary pump

**Compressed Air System:**

2 — 358 CFM 125 PSI air compressors with after coolers.

**Water Distillation Unit:**

2 — MECO Model PEE 300 K, 171 barrels per day each.

**Radio:**

RCA telegraph high seas system.

**Radar:**

Decca RM 916

**Fathometer:**

Raytheon DE-103

**Drilling Water:**

15,325 barrels

**Bulk Mud:**

8,640 cu. ft.

**Bulk Cement:**

4,540 cu. ft.

**Sack Material Storage:**

12,000 sacks

wire rope.

**Rig Power:**

6 — 800 HP (continuous) 1100 HP (intermittant) General Electric GT 606 D generator with Caterpillar D-398, Series B diesels.

**Rotary Table:**

National type, C-365, 36 1/2" opening, independently driven by GE 752 RI DC motors 525 HP.

GLOMAR GRAND ISLE

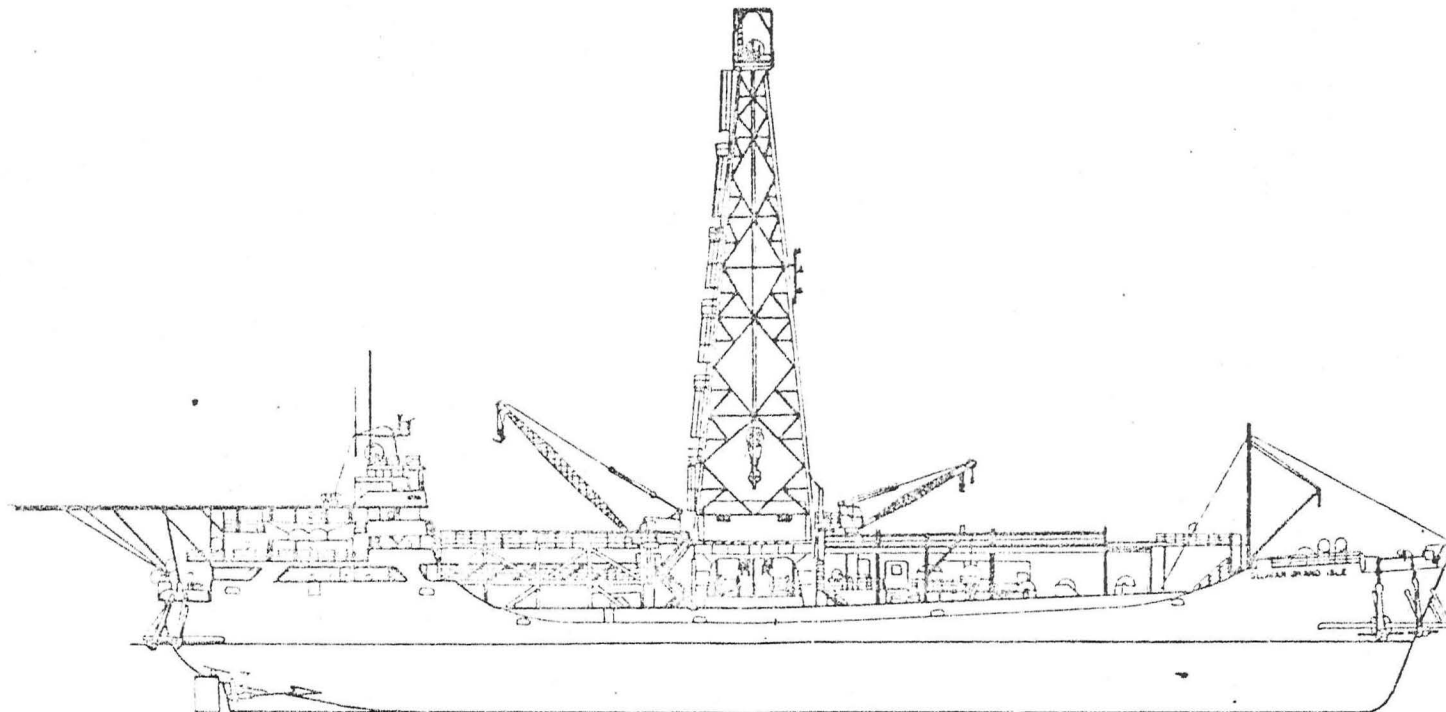


EXHIBIT 3