



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Pacific OCS Region
760 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 102
Camarillo, CA 93010-6064

OCT 03 2014

Mr. Kevin Dillow
Regulatory, Safety, OIMS Manager
U.S. Production
ExxonMobil Production Company
222 Benmar Drive
CORP-WGR-1240
Houston, TX 77060

Dear Mr. Dillow:

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has completed its review of ExxonMobil Production Company's (ExxonMobil) proposed revision to the Development and Production Plan (DPP) for the Santa Ynez Unit, entitled *Offshore Power System Reliability - B* project (OPSR-B). Pursuant to 30 CFR 550.285, the DPP revision is approved.

On May 15, 2014, ExxonMobil submitted a request to BOEM to process the OPSR-B project as a DPP revision. A technical review of the proposed revision was conducted by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), which concluded the project as proposed is technically sound.

Per our letter of April 23, 2014, BOEM made an initial determination that, based on the scale of the proposed revision and its similarity to projects previously implemented in the Santa Ynez Unit, the project is not likely to result in a significant change in the environmental impacts previously identified and evaluated for this Unit. To evaluate this initial determination, BOEM prepared an Environmental Assessment (Enclosure 1) to consider the potential environmental impacts to coastal and marine resources. After completing the assessment, BOEM issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (Enclosure 2) on September 4, 2014.

ExxonMobil proposed numerous environmental protection measures to avoid or minimize impacts from the project activities. These measures are to be instituted as part of the project and were considered as such in our approval. In addition to those measures, BOEM requires the following conditions of approval:

Pre-Installation:

A Compliance Monitoring Plan shall be provided to the Regional Supervisor no later than 30 days prior to commencement of the proposed activities which will:

- 1) Accurately identify and describe all required environmental mitigations.
- 2) Identify effective monitoring approaches to implement these mitigations.
- 3) Document the training of all monitoring personnel identified in the compliance plan to verify that they have the appropriate qualifications.
- 4) Demonstrate how environmental mitigations will be measured and documented in terms of effectiveness.
- 5) Include a tracking system and schedule (including specific due dates for deliverable reports, plans, etc.) for all environmental mitigations required for the project.
- 6) Provide a master list of environmental mitigations that will be maintained, including due dates and compliance documentation related to the proposed activities.

During Installation:

- 1) Utilize an ROV to monitor and videotape selected portions of the installation activities during the cable lay operations. If the ROV observes a rocky outcrop, the ROV shall assist the dynamically positioned vessel in adjusting its route to avoid a feature, whenever it is feasible to do so. Activities that shall be videotaped include cable laying along the route in water depths where rocky outcrops are suspected. A copy of the video is to be provided to the Regional Supervisor.
- 2) Upon request, provide BOEM or BSEE access, under safe conditions, to the site during installation and installation-related activities, including but not limited to, the cable laying vessel and support vessels. Agency biologists will be observing the extent, distribution and type of habitat that may be present near moorings or in the path of the proposed power cable. In the event that rocky outcrops are observed during cable installation, ExxonMobil shall adjust vessel moorings or operations to avoid the outcrops, if at all possible; if rocky outcrops are unavoidable, ExxonMobil shall contact the BSEE California District for further direction. All agency personnel on ExxonMobil contracted vessels shall be advised of and adhere to ExxonMobil safety requirements.
- 3) Make every effort to maintain a distance of 300 feet from aggregations of feeding or resting marine birds.
- 4) Minimize attraction of predatory and scavenging birds that could prey upon small seabirds attracted to lights (e.g., murrelets, storm-petrels) by carefully containing food waste on and removing garbage from the vessel.

- 5) Maintain a log of all incapacitated (dead or alive) birds found onboard vessels, noting the status and health of birds upon retrieval and/or release. Provide the log to the Regional Supervisor when the project has been completed.

Post-installation:


A Post-installation Report shall be provided to the Regional Supervisor no later than 60 days after project completion which includes:

- 1) Compliance summary listing the actions and mitigation measures identified in the Compliance Monitoring Plan expected to be used to reduce environmental impacts and describe how compliance with each action/measure was implemented.
- 2) Description of any field changes or adjustments made to the approved plan, with justification for the changes.
- 3) Description of any accidents or spills affecting OCS waters and the corrective measures taken.
- 4) Any other extraordinary conditions that occurred during the course of the installation activities.

This approval covers the DPP revision received by BOEM on May 15, 2014, and deemed submitted on June 23, 2014, for the repair and upgrade of the power system relating to the platforms in the Santa Ynez Unit.

Please keep our office advised of any further changes to the DPP. You can contact me at 805-384-6318 or joan.barminski@boem.gov with any questions. Also, Lisa Saylor Gentry of my staff may be reached at 805-384-6390 or lisa.gentry@boem.gov.

Sincerely,



Joan R. Barminski
Regional Supervisor
Office of Strategic Resources

Enclosures

1. BOEM Environmental Assessment
2. BOEM Finding of No Significant Impact

cc: Bill Grady, ALG Corporation
Erik Case, ExxonMobil
Blake Hebert, ExxonMobil
Jaron Ming, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
Cynthia Herzog, California State Lands Commission
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