Offshore Operators Committee Engagement with BSEE on Decommissioning of Pipeline Related Infrastructure in Water Depths Beyond 182-meters

Evan H. Zimmerman, Executive Director

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Who is OOC?

Technology, Safety and Collaboration in Offshore Energy Development since 1948



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Offshore Operators Committee (OOC)

OCS PRODUCTION



Executive Subcommittee Members

- 1. Anadarko Petroleum Corp.
- 2. Arena Offshore, LP
 - BHP Billiton Petroleum (GOM), Inc
- 4. BP America
- 5. Chevron

3.

6.

7.

8.

9.

- Cox Oil
- Diamond Offshore Drilling
- Eni Petroleum US, LLC
- EnVen Energy Ventures
- 10. Equinor US
- 11. ExxonMobil Production Company
- 12. Fieldwood Energy, LLC
- 13. Freeport McMoRan
- 14. J. Connor Consulting
- 15. LLOG Exploration Company, LLC
- 16. Murphy Expl. & Prod. Co. USA
- 17. Shell Exploration & Production Co.
- 18. Talos Energy Company
- 19. W & T Offshore, Inc



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OOC Engagement



OOC Engagement





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What is Pipeline Related Infrastructure?

... and Why Do I Care?



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Pipeline Related Infrastructure

- Wellhead
- Subsea Tree
- Jumper

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- Manifold
- Umbilicals
- Flying Leads
- Foundations
- Umbilical Termination Assembly





BSEE & GOM Policy

Blocks and Active Leases by Planning Area August 1, 2019



- Deepwater Field Life Cycle
- Increasing DIP Requests
- Need to Update Policy
- Public Commenting Period
- Finalizing Policy



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BSEE Policy Insight





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Comment Letter: Request For Information for Decommissioning In Place







February 25, 2019

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Submitted via email and via www.regulations.gov

Ms. Lakeisha Harrison Chief, Regulations and Standards Branch Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement 45600 Woodland Road Sterling, Virginia 20166

RE: Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf-Request for Information ("RFI") Regarding Potential Impacts of Decommissioning-in-Place ("DIP") of Pipeline-Related Infrastructure in Deepwater



General Recommendations

- 1. 800-meters and beyond DIP does not obstruct other uses of OCS
- 2. Extension of limit to 550-meters

- 3. DIP with heights of 11-meters ok 182 meters and beyond
- 4. Utilize risk-based & environmental cost/benefit analysis for 182 to 800 meter depths





Assessment Methodology - Simplified

Remove Obstructing & Simple Items

> DIP Non-Obstructing, Habitat & Risky Items





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Assessment Methodology - Detailed



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Assessment Methodology – Safety Risk



- 1. Use of equipment at or near its safe working limits;
- 2. Conducting removal operations in proximity to other nearby offshore infrastructure, including crossings;
- 3. The presence of mud or cuttings buildup that may be present on the pipeline-related infrastructure;
- 4. Damaged infrastructure to be decommissioned;
- 5. Uncertainty associated with infrastructure that has sustained damage due to a hurricane or mudslide event; and
- 6. Potential trapped pressure in pipelinerelated infrastructure that may pose safety risk to personnel.



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Assessment Methodology – Environmental Risk



- Lophelia Growth
- Spider Crab
- 618-meter (2029-feet) depth



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Other OCS Uses Evaluation



- Depths Beyond 182m (600-feet)
- Maximum 11m (35-feet) Off Seafloor
- Sparse Small Footprint



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Other OCS Uses





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Fishing

Not Impacted 182m +

OCS Use - Recreational



OCS Use – Commercial Fishing

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OCS Use – Military

No Notice of Impact

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OCS Use – Navigation

No Notice of Impact

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OCS Use – Oil & Gas Leasing

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OCS Use – Renewable Energy

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OCS Use – Transportation & Communication

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OCS Use – Marine Minerals

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OCS Use – Industrial or Military Dump Sites

Not Dumping Near Infrastructure

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Summary of OOC Comments

- 1. Transparent Risk & Environmental Evaluation Process
 - Simplified Method
 - Detailed Method

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2. Negligible to No Impact on Future OCS Uses for Decommissioning In Place

Comment Letter References

- 1. GOM & Atlantic deep coral and commercial fishing depths study referencing the royal red shrimp. https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/18065
- 2. Military dumping (types of military dumping done) and the depth range. https://fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RL33432.pdf
- 3. Shrimp trawling depths https://www.coris.noaa.gov/activities/resourceCD/resources/trawl_report_bm.pdf
- 4. Shelf's silt deposits from Mississippi River https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/70137845

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- 5. Hierarchy of Control https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hierarchy/default.html
- 6. BOEM Lophelia II Missions https://www.boem.gov/Curriculum-Lophelia-II/

Related Topics

• Fluid in Lines

- Discharge Allowed Under NPDES Permit
- Not Covered by Permit After Decom
- Waiting on Letter from EPA
- Idle Iron / Decom Timing
 - Campaign Approach
 - Well Plugging Priority

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Offshore Operators Committee

Submitted Regulatory Comments

The OOC Website

- Library of submitted comments
- ~ 50+ Public Items
- ~ 300+ Member Items

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Questions?

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