UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

March 21, 2003

To: Public Information (MS 5034)

From: Plan Coordinator, FO, Plans Section (MS 5231)

Subject: Public Information copy of plan

Control # - S-06143

Type - Supplemental Exploration Plan

Lease(s) - OCS-G18936 Block - 115 High Island Area

Operator - El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company

Description - Wells B, C, D, and E

Rig Type - JACKUP

Attached is a copy of the subject plan.

It has been deemed submitted as of this date and is under review for approval.

Elmo Cooper
Plan Coordinator

Site Type/Name	Botm Lse/Area/Blk	Surface Location	Surf Lse/Area/Blk
WELL/B	G18936/HI/115	600 FSL, 4000 FWL	G18936/HI/115
WELL/C	G18936/HI/115	7000 FSL, 2650 FWL	G18936/HI/115
WELL/D	G18936/HI/115	4950 FSL, 3650 FEL	G18936/HI/115
WELL/E	G18936/HI/115	7200 FSL, 3400 FEL	G18936/HI/115

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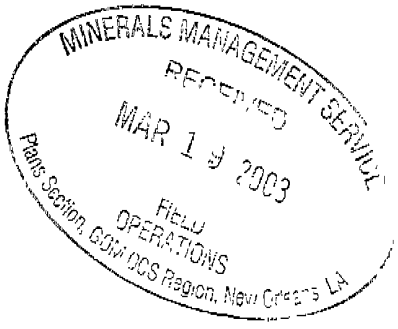
NOTED - SCHEXNAILDRE

elpaso Production

March 17, 2003



Mr. Donald C. Howard
Regional Supervisor
Office of Field Operations
U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

RE: Supplemental Exploration Plan for Lease OCS-G 18936, High Island Block 115, OCS Federal Waters, Gulf of Mexico, Offshore, Texas
(Shorebase located in Cameron, Louisiana)

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Title 30 CFR 250.203, El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company (El Paso O&G) hereby submits for your review and approval nine (9) copies of an Supplemental Exploration Plan for Lease OCS-G 18936, High Island Block 115, Offshore, Louisiana. Five (5) copies are "Proprietary Information" and four (4) copies are "Public Information".

Excluded from the Public Information copies are certain geologic discussions, depth of wells and structure map.

El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company anticipates activities will commence under this proposed Supplemental Exploration Plan on approximately May 1, 2003.

Should additional information be required, please contact the undersigned at (832) 676-7590.

Sincerely,

EL PASO PRODUCTION OIL & GAS COMPANY

Lisa J. Kakos
Sr. Regulatory Analyst

PUBLIC INFORMATION

:ljk
Enclosures

CONTROL No. S-6143
REVIEWER: Elmo Cooper
PHONE: (504) 731-3083

El Paso Production
Nine Greenway Plaza Houston, Texas 77046
tel 832.676.2600

EL PASO PRODUCTION OIL & GAS COMPANY

SUPPLEMENTAL EXPLORATION PLAN

LEASE OCS-G 18936

HIGH ISLAND BLOCK 115

A. CONTENTS OF PLAN

LEASE DESCRIPTION, OBJECTIVES AND SCHEDULE

Lease OCS-G 18936 was acquired by The Houston Exploration Company at the Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale No. 168 held on August 27, 1997. The subject lease was issued with an effective date of January 1, 1998 and primary term ending date of December 31, 2002. El Paso O&G is the designated operator of the subject oil and gas lease and is currently drilling Well No. 001 (Location A).

This Supplemental Exploration Plan provides for the drilling and potential completion and testing of four (4) exploratory wells in High Island Block 115 to test the target sands as detailed in Section C of this plan.

The following schedule details the proposed drilling, and potential completion and testing of the locations provided for in this plan.

Activity	*Estimated Start Date*	*Estimated Completion Date*
Drill, Test and Complete Well Location B	05/01/03	07/20/03
Drill, Test and Complete Well Location C	07/21/03	10/10/03
Drill, Test and Complete Well Location D	10/11/03	12/10/03
Drill, Test and Complete Well Location E	01/01/04	03/21/04

It should be emphasized that this schedule is tentative in the meaning of Title 30 CFR 250.203(1). Additional exploratory drilling must be predicated upon the need to further define the structures and/or reservoir limitations.

Included in the activity schedule shown above are other activities which may be conducted under this Plan, including installation of a minimal well protector structure or net guard.

LOCATION

Included in this section as ***Attachments A-1 through A-3*** are a Plan Information Form, well location plat and bathymetry map prepared in accordance with Appendix J of that certain Notice to Lessees (NTL 2000-G10).

DRILLING UNIT

Offshore exploratory activities are carried out from mobile drilling rigs. The five most common types of mobile rigs employed for exploratory drilling offshore are submersible drilling rigs, semi-submersible drilling rigs, jack-up drilling rigs, drillships, and drill barges.

The proposed wells will be drilled and completed with a typical jackup drilling rig. The rig specifications will be made a part of the appropriate Applications for Permit to Drill.

Safety features on the MODU will include well control, pollution prevention, welding procedure, and blowout prevention equipment as described in Title 30 CFR Part 250, Subparts C, D, E, G and O; and as further clarified by MMS Notices to Lessees, and current policy making invoked by the MMS, Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Coast Guard. The appropriate life rafts, life jackets, ring buoys, etc., as prescribed by the U. S. Coast Guard will be maintained on the facility at all times.

In accordance with Title 30 CFR Part 250, Subpart O, an operator is to ensure Well Control Training is provided for personnel engaged in oil and gas operations in the OCS Gulf of Mexico. Supervisory and certain designated personnel on-board the facility are to be familiar with the effluent limitations and guidelines for overboard discharges into the receiving waters, as outlined in the NPDES General Permit GMG290000.

The operator is charged with the responsibility to not create conditions that will pose unreasonable risk to the public health, life, property, aquatic life, wildlife, recreation, navigation, commercial fishing, or other uses of the ocean. Some of these measures include installation of curbs, gutters, drip pans, and drains on drilling deck areas to collect all contaminants and debris.

The MMS is required to conduct onsite inspections of offshore facilities to confirm operators are complying with lease stipulations, operating regulations, approved plans, and other conditions; as well as to assure safety and pollution prevention requirements are being met. The National Potential Incident of Noncompliance (PINC) List serves as the baseline for these inspections. The MMS also inspects the stockpiles of equipment listed in the operator's approved Oil Spill Response Plan that would be used for the containment and cleanup of hydrocarbon spills.

J. OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM

(USE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH LEASE)

EXPLORATION PLAN	X	DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS COORDINATION DOCUMENT		DEVELOPMENT & PRODUCTION PLAN	

OPERATOR:	EL PASO PRODUCTION OIL & GAS CO.	ADDRESS:	9 GREENWAY PLAZA, RM. 2654
MMS OPERATOR NO.:	00491		HOUSTON, TEXAS 77046
CONTACT PERSON:	LISA J. KAKOS	PHONE NO.	(832) 676-7590

PROPOSED START DATE: MAY 1, 2003	RIG TYPE: X JU SS PF DS OTHER	DISTANCE TO CLOSEST LAND (IN MILES): 18

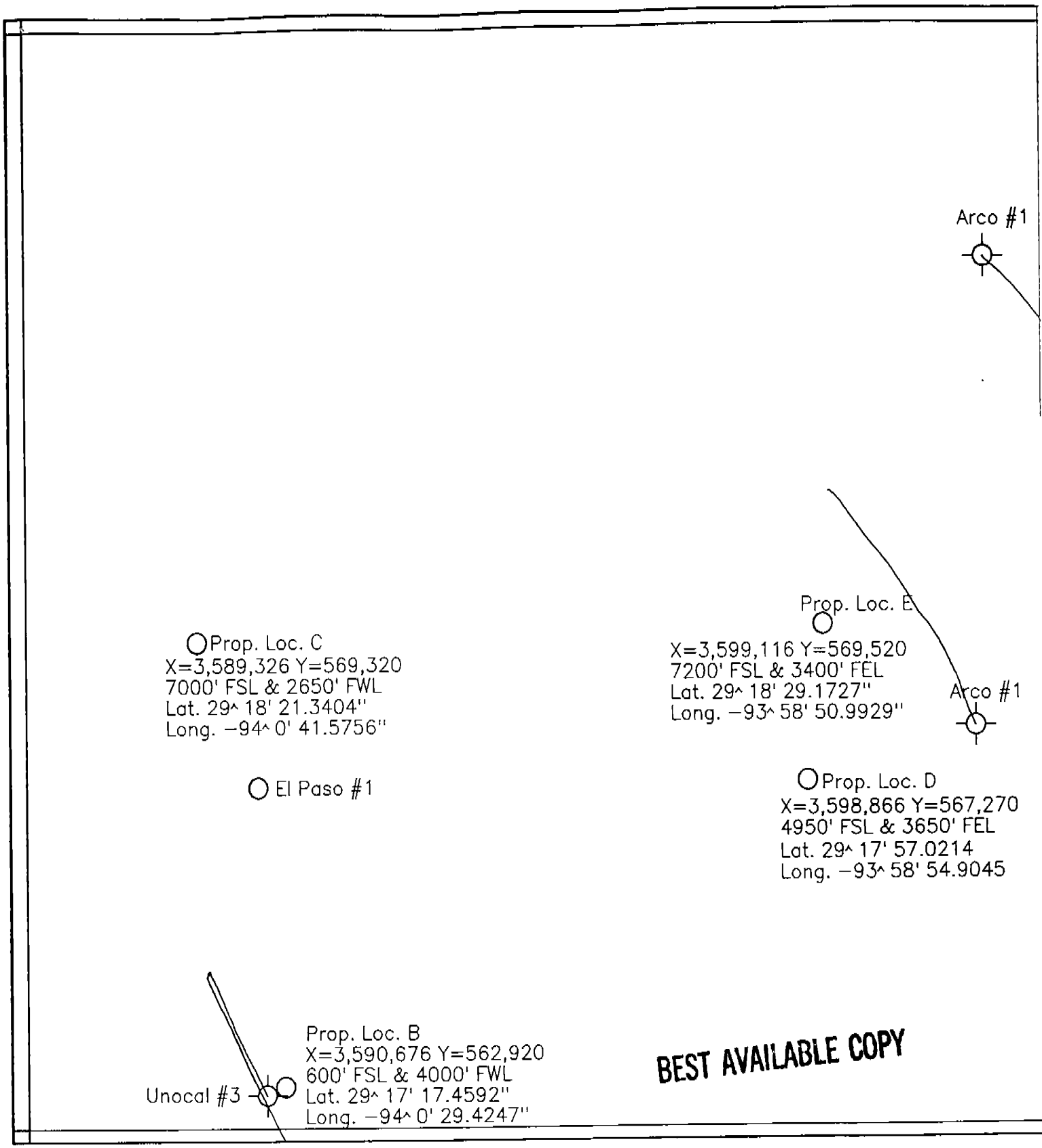
NEW OR UNUSUAL TECHNOLOGY	YES		NO	X	ONSHORE SUPPORT BASE(S):	CAMERON, LA

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION PROPOSED ACTIVITIES:	DRILL, COMPLETE AND TEST FOUR (4) EXPLORATORY WELLS (WELL LOCATIONS B, C, D & E)
	PROJECT NAME, IF APPLICABLE:

PROPOSED WELL/STRUCTURE LOCATIONS

WELL / STRUCTURE NAME	SURFACE LOCATION	BOTTOM-HOLE LOCATION (FOR WELLS)
Platform _ or Well _ Name: B	CALLS: 4000' F W L and 600' F S L OF LEASE OCS G 18936 , HIGH ISLAND AREA, BLOCK 115 X: 3590676 Y: 562920 LAT: 29°17'17.4592" LONG: 94°0'29.4247" TVD (IN FEET): MD (IN FEET): WATER DEPTH (IN FEET):	CALLS: LEASE OCS , AREA, BLOCK X: Y: LAT: LONG:
Platform _ or Well _ Name: C	CALLS: 2650' F W L and 7000' F S L OF LEASE OCS G 18936 , HIGH ISLAND AREA, BLOCK 115 X: 3589326 Y: 569320 LAT: 29°18'21.3404" LONG: 94°0'41.5756" TVD (IN FEET): MD (IN FEET): WATER DEPTH (IN FEET):	CALLS: LEASE OCS , AREA, BLOCK X: Y: LAT: LONG:
Platform _ or Well _ Name: D	CALLS: 3650' F E L and 4950' F S L OF LEASE OCS G 18936 , HIGH ISLAND AREA, BLOCK 115 X: 3598866 Y: 567270 LAT: 29°17'57.0214" LONG: 93°58'54.9045" TVD (IN FEET): MD (IN FEET): WATER DEPTH (IN FEET):	CALLS: LEASE OCS , AREA, BLOCK X: Y: LAT: LONG:
Platform _ or Well _ Name: E	CALLS: 3400' F E L and 7200' F S L OF LEASE OCS G 18936 , HIGH ISLAND AREA, BLOCK 115 X: 3599116 Y: 569520 LAT: 29°18'29.1727 LONG: 93°58'50.9929" TVD (IN FEET): MD (IN FEET): WATER DEPTH (IN FEET):	CALLS: LEASE OCS , HIGH ISLAND AREA, BLOCK X: Y: LAT: LONG:

ATTACHMENT A-1

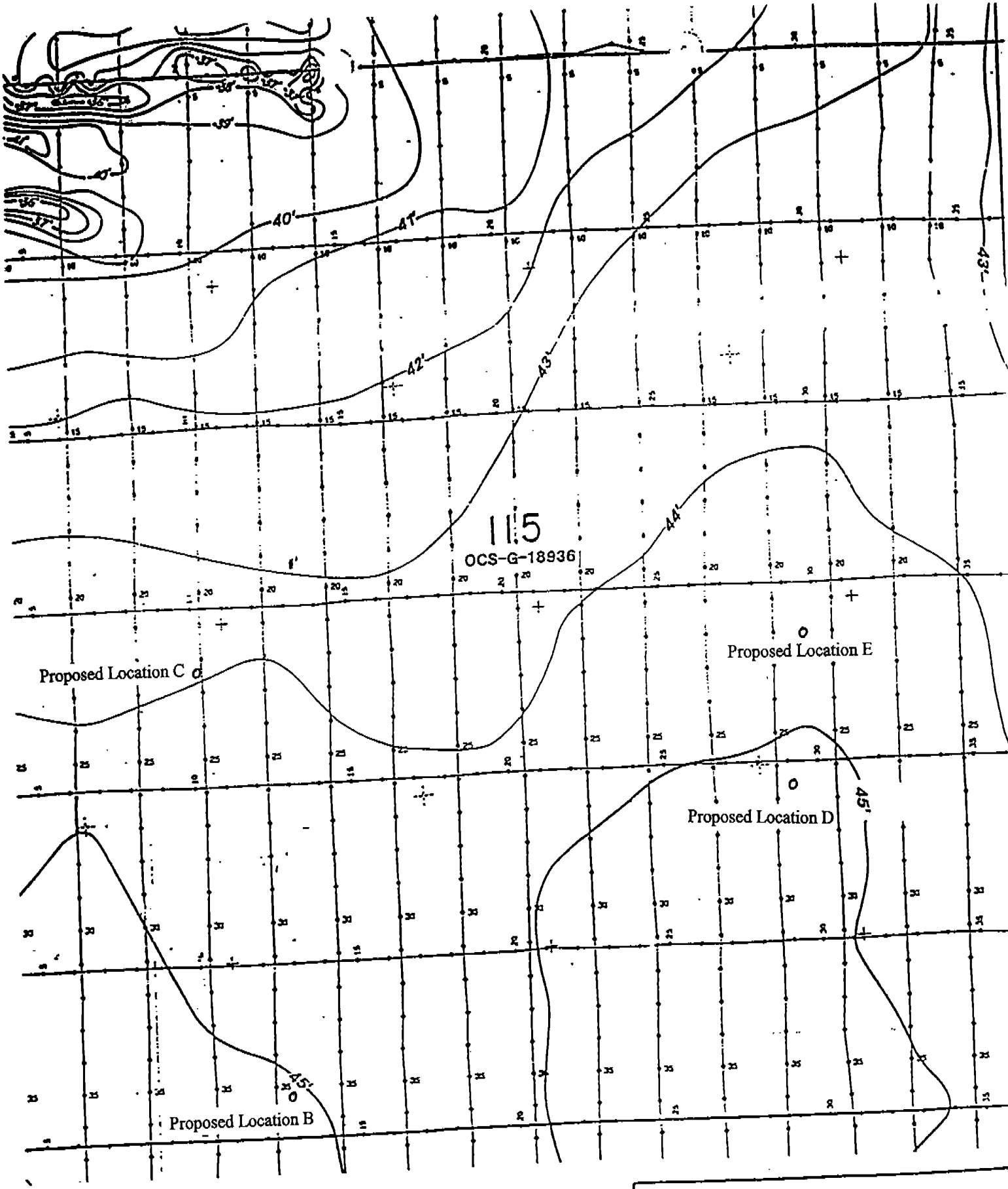


elpaso Production

High Island Area
High Island Block 115
OCS-G 18936
EP Application

Date	Scale	CI	By:
Mar. 2003	1"=2000'		R. Dow/JB/MB

ATTACHMENT A-2



THE HOUSTON EXPLORATION CO.
BATHYMETRY MAP
OCS-G-18936
BLOCK 115
HIGH ISLAND AREA

JOHN E. CHANCE & ASSOCIATES, INC.
GEOPHYSICAL DIVISION
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA

DATE : JANUARY 19
JOB NO. 90-2004
MAP NO. 1 of 3

ATTACHMENT A-3

B. GENERAL INFORMATION

CONTACT

Inquiries may be made to the following authorized representative:

Lisa J. Kakos
El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company
Nine Greenway Plaza, Suite 2658
Houston, Texas 77046
Office: (832) 676-7590 Fax: (832) 676-1760
e-mail address: lisa.kakos@elpaso.com

NEW OR UNUSUAL TECHNOLOGY

El Paso O&G does not propose utilizing any new or unusual technology during the proposed drilling and potential completion operations.

BONDING INFORMATION

In accordance with regulations contained in Title 30 CFR Part 256 and further clarified by that certain Notice to Lessees (NTL 2000-G16) pertaining to general lease surety bonds, El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company has on file with the Minerals Management Service a $3,000,000 Areawide Development Bond.

Additionally, NTL 98-18N addresses how MMS may require additional security(s) in the form of a supplemental bond or bonds when the cost to meet all potential present and future lease obligations exceeds the amount of the general bond unless one of the current lessee(s) can demonstrate the financial capability to meet these obligations. MMS has deemed El Paso O&G exempt from the requirements of supplemental bonding.

ONSHORE SUPPORT BASE AND SUPPORT VESSELS

High Island Block 115 is located approximately 18 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline and approximately 55 miles from the onshore support base located in Cameron, Louisiana. A Vicinity Plat showing the location of High Island Block 115 relative to the shoreline and onshore base is included as ***Attachment B-1.***

El Paso O&G will utilize onshore facilities located in Cameron, Louisiana, which will serve as a port of debarkation for supplies and crews. No onshore expansion or construction is anticipated with respect to the proposed activities.

This base is capable of providing the services necessary for the proposed activities. It has 24-hour service, a radio tower with a phone patch, dock space, equipment, and supply storage base, drinking and drill water, etc. The base will also serve as a loading point for tools, equipment and machinery to be delivered to the MODU, crew change and transportation base, and temporary storage for materials and equipment The facilities typically include outdoor storage, forklift and crane service, dock, trailer facilities, and parking, as well as 24-hour service, a radio tower with a phone patch.

Support vessels and travel frequency during drilling and potential completion and testing activities are as follows:

Support Vessel	*Drilling and Completion Trips Per Week*
Crew Boat	6
Supply Boat	3
Helicopter	As needed

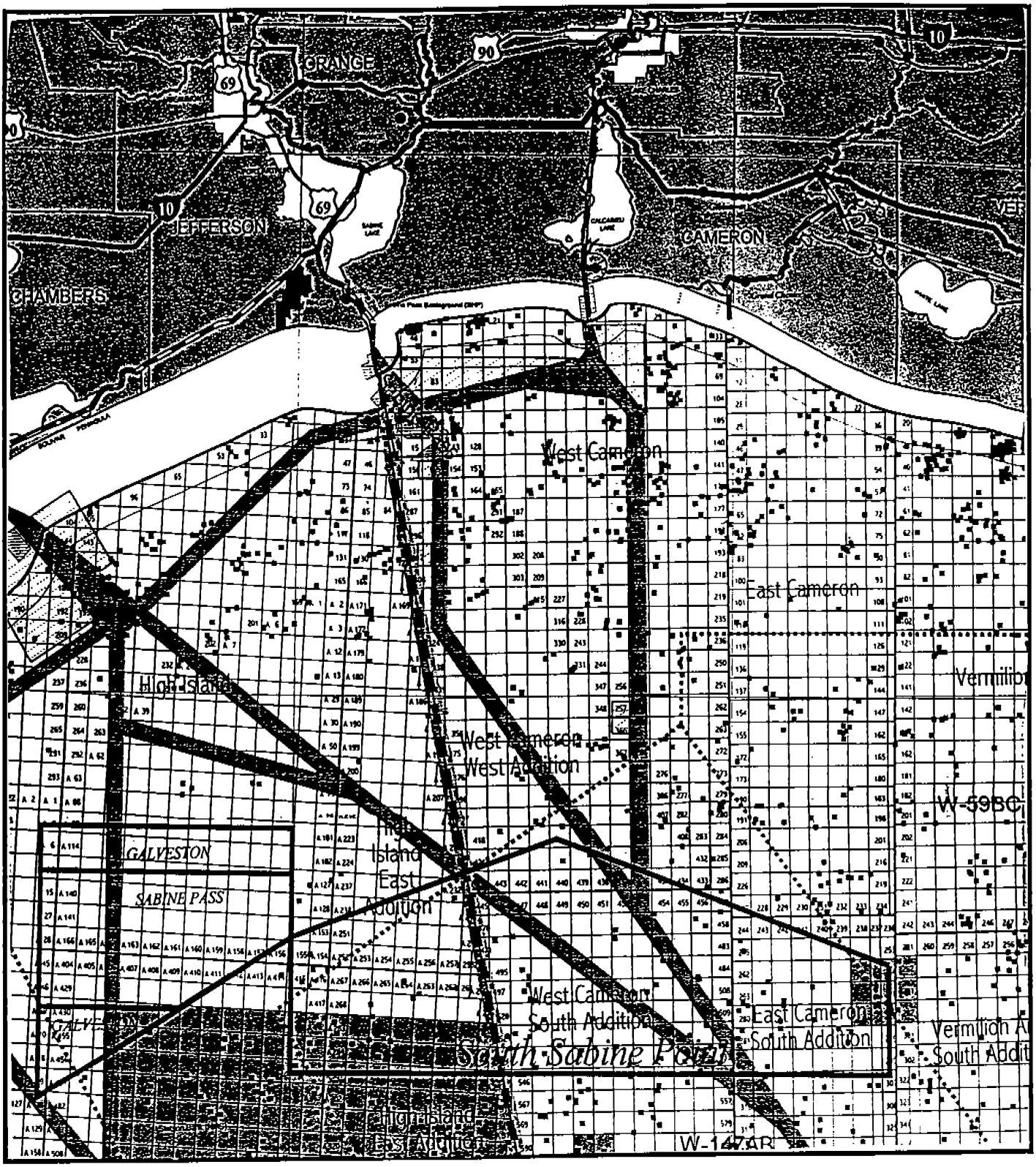
Personal vehicles will be the main means of transportation to carry rig personnel from various locations to the Cameron Area. They will then be transported to the MODU by the crew boat. A helicopter will be used to transport small supplies, and on occasion, personnel. The most practical, direct route permitted by the weather and traffic conditions will be utilized.

LEASE STIPULATIONS

Oil and gas exploration activities on the OCS are subject to stipulations developed before the lease sale and would be attached to the lease instrument, as necessary, in the form of mitigating measures. The MMS is responsible for ensuring full compliance with stipulations.

Oil and gas exploration activities on the OCS are subject to stipulations developed before the lease sale and would be attached to the lease instrument, as necessary, in the form of mitigating measures. The MMS is responsible for ensuring full compliance with stipulations.

Minerals Management Service did not invoke any stipulations for Lease OCS-G 18936, High Island Block 115.



HIGH ISLAND BLOCK 115

ATTACHMENT B-1

VICINITY PLAT

EL PASO PRODUCTION OIL & GAS COMPANY

C. GEOLOGICAL, GEOPHYSICAL and H_2S INFORMATION

STRUCTURE CONTOUR MAPS

Current structure maps at a scale of 1"-2000' drawn to the top of the prospective hydrocarbon accumulation showing the entire lease with surface and bottomhole locations of the subject wells are included in this section as ***Attachment C-1 thru C-4.***

INTERPRETED 2-D AND/OR 3-D SEISMIC LINES

Included as ***Attachment C-5*** is a copy of the letter being submitted under separate cover this date submitting the page size copies of migrated and annotated 2-D and/or 3-D seismic lines within 500 feet of the proposed surface locations.

GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE CROSS-SECTIONS

Interpreted geological cross sections depicting the proposed well locations and the geologic name and age of the anticipated structures are included as ***Attachments C-6 and C-7.*** Such cross section corresponds to each seismic line being submitted under separate cover.

SHALLOW HAZARDS REPORT

John E. Chance & Associates, Inc. conducted a survey across High Island Block 115 during January, 1991 on behalf of Santa Fe Minerals, Inc. MMS granted approval on July 17, 1998 to The Houston Exploration Company to utilize the pre-existing data. The purpose of the survey was to evaluate geologic conditions and inspect for potential hazards or constraints to lease development. High Island Block 115 is classified by MMS as a high probability area for cultural resources (pre-historic), therefore an archaeological report was also prepared.

Copies of the report have been previously submitted to the Minerals Management Service.

SHALLOW HAZARDS ASSESSMENT

A shallow hazards assessment has been prepared for the proposed surface locations, evaluating seafloor and subsurface geologic and manmade features and conditions, and is included as ***Attachment C-8.***

HIGH-RESOLUTION SEISMIC LINES

Included as ***Attachment C-5*** is a copy of the letter being submitted under separate cover this date depicting the high resolution geophysical shallow hazards lines, and the migrated and annotated deep seismic lines within 500 feet of the surface locations being proposed in this plan.

STRATIGRAPHIC COLUMN

A generalized biostratigraphic/lithostratigraphic column from the seafloor to the total depth of the proposed wells is included as ***Attachment C-9.***

TIME VERSUS DEPTH TABLES

El Paso O&G's has determined that there is existing sufficient well control data for the target areas proposed in this plan; therefore, tables providing seismic time versus depth for the proposed well locations are not required.

HYDROGEN SULFIDE INFORMATION

Classification - In accordance with Title 30 CFR 250.417, El Paso O&G requests that High Island Block 115 be classified by the Minerals Management Service as an area where the absence of hydrogen sulfide is unknown.

El Paso O&G will submit to the appropriate MMS GOMR district office an H_2S Contingency Plan prepared according to Title 30 CFR 250.417(f) before conducting the proposed exploration activities.

High Island Area
High Island Block 115
OCS-G 18936
EP Application
Shallow Hazards Statement

Houston Exploration Company contracted KC Offshore L.L.C. to prepare an updated archaeological assessment and shallow hazard analysis of High Island Block 115, offshore Texas in July 1999. Original fieldwork in High Island 115 was performed in November 1990. The purpose of the updated survey was to evaluate sea floor and subbottom conditions in the area and to locate any potential hazards to future lease development.

Navigation and field mapping for the survey were accomplished using STARFIX Satellite positioning interfaced to a Hewlett Packard navigation computer system. This survey covered all of High Island Block 115. The survey grid consisted of seventeen north-south lines spaced 300 meters apart and five east-west tie lines spaced 900 meters apart. Remote sensing equipment for the survey included a 24 kHz echosounder, 3.5 kHz subbottom profiler, side scan sonar, proton magnetometer and water gun seismic system. The updated Anomaly Map reflects additional wells and pipelines in place since 1990.

El Paso is proposing four surface locations in this Exploration Plan application:

Proposed Location B	4000' FWL & 600' FSL
Proposed Location C	2650' FWL & 7000' FSL
Proposed Location D	3650' FEL & 4950' FSL
Proposed Location E	3400' FEL & 7200' FSL

All data across the surface locations have been reviewed and the interpretation of said data indicates there is no faulting, overpressured gas accumulations, diapiric activity or any other shallow subsurface hazards at the proposed surface locations.

Rick Dow
Project Geophysicist

D. BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

CHEMOSYNTHETIC INFORMATION

The seafloor disturbing activities proposed in the Plan are in water depths less than 400 meters (1312 feet); therefore, this section of the plan is not applicable.

TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES INFORMATION

The topographic features stipulation minimizes the likelihood of damage to the biota of the designated banks from routine OCS oil and gas activities. The topographic features provide habitat for coral reef community organisms. Through consultation and coordination between various Federal, State and local agencies, many such activities and their associated impacts are minimized by establishing "no activity" zone, "1000 meter zone", "1-mile zone" and "3-mile zone".

The activities proposed in this plan are not affected by a topographic feature.

LIVE BOTTOM (PINNACLE TREND) INFORMATION

The proposed bottom-disturbing activities, including anchors or cables from a semi-submersible drilling rig, are not located within 100 feet of any pinnacle trend feature with vertical relief equal to or greater than 8 feet.

REMOTELY OPERATED VEHICLE (ROV) SURVEYS

The seafloor disturbing activities proposed in the Plan are in water depths less than 400 meters (1312 feet); therefore, this section of the plan is not applicable.

E. WASTES AND DISCHARGES

Discharges

Type of Waste Approximate Composition	*Amount to be Discharges (volume or rate)*	*Maximum Discharge Rate*	*Treatment and/or Storage Location and Discharge Method*
Water-based drilling fluids	7800 bbls/well	200 bbls/hr	HI 115, Shunt through downpipe to 40 feet AML
Drill cuttings associated with water-based fluids	2000 bbls/well	1000 bbls/hr	HI115, Shunt through downpipe to 40 feet AML
Drill cuttings associated with synthetic drilling fluids	3000 bbls/well	1000/bbls/well	HI115, Shunt through downpipe to 40 feet AML
Muds, cuttings and cement at the seafloor	Gel – 5000 bbls WBM – 8000 bbls Cuttings – 20,000 bbls Seawater and caustic – 4800 bbls	NA	HI115 Discharged at seafloor
Produced water	2000 bbls/day	400 bbls/hr	HI115, chlorinate and discharge
Sanitary wastes	20 gals/person/day	NA	HI115, Remove flating solids and discharge
Domestic waste	30 gals/person/day	NA	HI115, Remove oil and grease and discharge
Deck drainage	0-4000 bbls/day (Dependant upon rainfall)	15 bbls/hr (maximum separtor discharge)	HI115, Discharge used fluids overboard, return excess to shore for credit
Well treatment, workover or completion fluids	Workover – 300 bbls/well Treatment – 250 bbls/well Completion – 300 bbls/well	200 bbls/well/every 4 years	HI115, Discharged overboard
Uncontaminated fresh or seawater	37,000 bbls (drilling)	NA	HI115, Discharged overboard
Desalinization unit water	700 bbls/day	NA	HI115, Discharged overboard
Uncontaminated bilge water	2000 bbls	260 m^3/hr	HI115, Discharged overboard
Uncontaminated ballast water	20,000 bbls	2600 m^3/hr	HI115, Discharged overboard
Misc. discharges to which treatment chemicals have been added	100 bbls/day	10 bbls/hr	HI115, Discharged overboard
Miscellaneous discharges (permitted under NPDES) (Excess cement with cementing chemicals)	100 bbls	NA	HI115, Discharged at seafloor without treatment

Disposed Wastes

Type of Waste Approximate Composition	*Amount*	*Rate per Day*	*Name/Location of Disposal Facility*	*Treatment and/or Storage, Transport and Disposal Method*
Spent oil-based drilling fluids and cuttings	1000 bbls/well	200 bbls/day	Newpark, Cameron LA	Transport to shore in barge tanks to a land farm
Spent synthetic-based drilling fluids and cuttings	1000 bbls/well	200 bbls/day	Newpark, Cameron, LA	Transport to shorebase in cuttings boxes on crewboat thein inject downhole at offshore waste disposal facility
Oil-contaminated produced sand	200 lbs/yr	0.6 bbls/day	Newpark, Cameron LA	Store in a cuttings box and transport to a land farm
Waste oil	250,000 bbls/yr	0.5 bbls/day	Newpark, Cameron LA	Pack in drums and transport to an onshore incineration site
Produced water		1000 bbls/day	Newpark, Cameron LA (if applicable)	Transport by vessel and inject
Produced water	250,000 bbls/yr	1000 bbls/day	Newpark, Cameron LA	Pipe to a well on-lease, inject downhole
Norm – contaminated wastes	1 ton	NA	Newpark, Cameron LA	Transport to a transfer station via dedicated barge
Trash and debris	1000 ft^3	3 ft^3/day	Newpark, Cameron LA (if applicable)	Transport in storage bins on crew boat to a inadfill
Chemical product wastes	50 bbls/yr	2 bbls/day	Newpark, Cameron LA	Transport by pipeline and inject downhole; add to produced water stream
Chemical product wastes	100 bbls	2 bbals/day	Newpark, Cameron LA	Transport in barrels on crew boat to shore location
Workover fluids	150 bbls	2 bbls/day	Newpark, Cameron LA	Transport in barrels on crewboat or barge

F. OIL SPILL RESPONSE AND CHEMICAL

El Paso Production GOM Inc., El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company and El Paso Production Company are covered under El Paso Production Company, MMS #00236, in their Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) approved on July 24, 2002. Activities proposed in this Supplemental Exploration Plan will be covered by the Regional OSRP.

El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company's primary equipment provider is Clean Gulf Associates (CGA). The Marine Spill Response Corporation's (MSRC) STARS network will provide closest available personnel, as well as an MSRC supervisor to operate the equipment.

In the event of a spill, mechanical response equipment located in CGA's bases located in Houma, Lake Charles and Galveston would be transported to a staging area in Galveston, Texas.

The worst case discharge (WCD) proposed in this EP is less than 1000 barrels as outlined below in the comparison table:

Category	Regional OSRP WCD	EP WCD
Type of Activity (1)	Platform	Drilling
Spill Location (Area/Block)	ST 204	HI115
Facility Designation (2)	Platform	MODU
Distance to Nearest Shoreline (miles)	42	18
Volume (3) Storage tanks (total) Flowlines (on facility Lease terms pipelines Uncontrolled blowout (volume per day) Total Volume	15000 bbls	0 bbls
Type of Oil(s) (crude, condensate, diesel)	Crude	NA
API Gravity(s) (4)	39°	NA – Dry Gas

(1) Types of activities include pipeline, platform, caisson, subsea completion or manifold, and MODU.

(2) I.E., Well No. 2, Platform A, Segment No. 6373

(3) Take your regional OSRP WCD scenario volume from the appropriate section of your regional OSRP. For EP's, the WCD scenario volume is the daily volume possible from an uncontrolled blowout. Determine the volume using the provisions of 30 CFR 254.47(b). For DOCD's, determine the volume of your WCD scenario using the provisions of 30 CFR 254.47(a) or (b), as appropriate.

(4) Provide API gravity of all oils given unter "Type of Oil(s) above. Estimate for EP's.

Since the proposed exploratory operations are temporary and speculative in nature, El Paso O&G will not modify their Regional OSRP to change the worst-case discharge.

Since El Paso O&G has the capability to respond to the WCD spill scenario included in its Regional OSRP approved on July 24, 2002, and since the WCD scenario determined for our EP does not replace the WCD scenario in our Regional OSRP, I hereby certify that El Paso O&G has the capability to respond, to the maximum extent practicable, to a WCD resulting from the activities proposed in our EP.

G. AIR EMISSIONS

AIR EMISSIONS INFORMATION

Offshore air emissions related to the proposed activities result mainly from the drilling rig operations, helicopters and service vessels. These emissions occur mainly from combustion or burning of fuels and natural gas and from venting or evaporation of hydrocarbons. The combustion of fuels occurs primarily on diesel-powered generators, pumps or motors and from lighter fuel motors. Other air emissions can result from catastrophic events such as oil spills or blowouts.

Primary air pollutants associated with OCS activities are nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, sulphur oxides, volatile organic compound, and suspended particulate.

Included as ***Attachment G-1*** is the Projected Air Quality Emissions Report prepared in accordance with Appendix H of that certain Notice to Lessees (No. 2000-G10) addressing drilling, and potential completion and testing operations.

Type of Rig	Max HP
Drillship	61,800
DP Semisubmersible	61,200
Semisubmersible	26,400
Submersible	6,064
Jack-up	16,975
Platform/Barge	6,635

ATTACHMENT G-1

EXPLORATION PLAN (EP)
AIR QUALITY SCREENING CHECKLIST

OMB Control No. XXX-XXX
Expiration Date: Pending

COMPANY	EL PASO PRODUCTION OIL & GAS COMPANY
AREA	HIGH ISLAND
BLOCK	115
LEASE	OCS-G 18936
PLATFORM	
WELL	B, C, D & E
COMPANY CONTACT	LISA KAKOS
TELEPHONE NO.	(832) 676-7590
REMARKS	EL PASO PRODUCTION O&G WILL NOT UTILIZE A GORILLA TYPE JACKUP RIG. PROPOSED OPERATIONS ARE TO DRILL, COMPLETE AND TEST WELL LOCATIONS B, C, D & E

"Yes"	"No"	Air Quality Screening Questions
	X	1. Are the proposed activities east of 87.5° W latitude?
	X	2. Are H_2S concentrations greater than 20 ppm expected?
	X	3. Is gas flaring proposed for greater than 48 continuous hours per well?
	X	4. Is produced liquid burning proposed?
X		5. Is the exploratory activity within 25 miles of shore?
	X	6. Are semi-submersible activities involved and is the facility within 50 miles of shore?
	X	7. Are drillship operations involved and is the facility within 120 miles of shore?
	X	8. Will the exploratory activity be collocated (same surface location) on a production facility?

If ALL questions are answered "No":
Submit only this coversheet with your plan; a full set of spreadsheets is not needed.

If ANY of questions 1 through 7 is answered "Yes":
Prepare and submit a full set of **EP** spreadsheets with your plan.

If question number 8 is answered "Yes":
Prepare and submit a full set of **DOCD** spreadsheets showing the cumulative emissions from both the proposed activities and the existing production platform.

AIR EMISSION CUMPUTATION FACTORS

Fuel Usage Conversion Factors	Natural Gas Turbines		Natural Gas Engines		Diesel Recip. Engine		REF.	DATE
	SCF/hp-hr	9.524	SCF/hp-hr	7.143	GAL/hp-hr	0.0483	AP42 3.2-1	4/76 & 8/84

Equipment/Emission Factors	units	PM	SOx	NOx	VOC	CO	REF.	DATE
NG Turbines	gms/hp-hr		0.00247	1.3	0.01	0.83	AP42 3.2-1& 3.1-1	10/96
NG 2-cycle lean	gms/hp-hr		0.00185	10.9	0.43	1.5	AP42 3.2-1	10/96
NG 4-cycle lean	gms/hp-hr		0.00185	11.8	0.72	1.6	AP42 3.2-1	10/96
NG 4-cycle rich	gms/hp-hr		0.00185	10	0.14	8.6	AP42 3.2-1	10/96
Diesel Recip. < 600 hp.	gms/hp-hr	1	1.468	14	1.12	3.03	AP42 3.3-1	10/96
Diesel Recip. > 600 hp.	gms/hp-hr	0.32	1.468	11	0.33	2.4	AP42 3.4-1	10/96
Diesel Boiler	lbs/bbl	0.084	2.42	0.84	0.008	0.21	AP42 1.3-12,14	9/98
NG Heaters/Boilers/Burners	lbs/mmscf	7.6	0.593	100	5.5	84	P42 1.4-1, 14-2, & 14	7/98
NG Flares	lbs/mmscf		0.593	71.4	60.3	388.5	AP42 11.5-1	9/91
Liquid Flaring	lbs/bbl	0.42	6.83	2	0.01	0.21	AP42 1.3-1 & 1.3-3	9/98
Tank Vapors	lbs/bbl				0.03		E&P Forum	1/93
Fugitives	lbs/hr/comp.				0.0005		API Study	12/93
Glycol Dehydrator Vent	lbs/mmscf				6.6		La. DEQ	1991
Gas Venting	lbs/scf				0.0034			

Sulfur Content Source	Value	Units
Fuel Gas	3.33	ppm
Diesel Fuel	0.4	% weight
Produced Gas(Flares)	3.33	ppm
Produced Oil (Liquid Flaring)	1	% weight

AIR EMISSION CALCULATIONS - FIRST YEAR

COMPANY	AREA	BLOCK	LEASE	PLATFORM	WELL		CONTACT	PHONE	REMARKS
EL PASO PRODUCTION	HIGH ISLAND	115	OCS-G 16938		B, C, D & E		LISA J. KAKOS	(832)676-7590	#REFI

OPERATIONS	EQUIPMENT	RATING	MAX. FUEL	ACT. FUEL	RUN TIME		MAXIMUM POUNDS PER HOUR					ESTIMATED TONS				
	Diesel Engines	HP	GAL/HR	GAL/D												
	Nat. Gas Engines	HP	SCF/HR	SCF/D												
	Burners	MMBTU/HR	SCF/HR	SCF/D	HR/D	DAYS	PM	SOx	NOx	VOC	CO	PM	SOx	NOx	VOC	CO
DRILLING	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	16975	819.8925	2937.00	24	241	11.96	54.89	411.29	12.34	89.74	5.16	23.69	177.53	5.33	38.73
	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	BURNER diesel	0			0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	AUXILIARY EQUIP<600hp diesel	227	10.9641	263.14	6	241	0.50	0.73	7.00	0.56	1.52	0.36	0.53	5.06	0.40	1.10
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(crew)	2065	99.7395	2393.75	6	206	1.46	6.68	50.03	1.50	10.92	0.90	4.13	30.92	0.93	6.75
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(supply)	2065	99.7395	2393.75	10	103	1.46	6.68	50.03	1.50	10.92	0.75	3.44	25.77	0.77	5.62
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(tugs)	12600	608.58	14605.92	12	6	8.88	40.74	305.29	9.16	66.61	0.32	1.47	10.99	0.33	2.40
PIPELINE INSTALLATION	PIPELINE LAY BARGE diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	SUPPORT VESSEL diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PIPELINE BURY BARGE diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	SUPPORT VESSEL diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(crew)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(supply)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FACILITY INSTALLATION	DERRICK BARGE diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	MATERIAL TUG diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(crew)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(supply)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PRODUCTION	RECIP.<600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.<600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	SUPPORT VESSEL diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TURBINE nat gas	0	0	0.00	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.2 cycle lean nat gas	0	0	0.00	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.4 cycle lean nat gas	0	0	0.00	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.4 cycle rich nat gas	0	0	0.00	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	BURNER nat gas	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	MISC.	BPD	SCF/HR	COUNT												
	TANK-	0			0	0				0.00						
	FLARE-		0		0	0				0.00					0.00	
	PROCESS VENT-		0		0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	FUGITIVES-			0.0		0				0.00					0.00	
	GLYCOL STILL VENT-		0		0	0				0.00					0.00	
DRILLING WELL TEST	OIL BURN	250			24	6	4.38	71.15	20.83	0.10	2.19	0.32	5.12	1.50	0.00	0.16
	GAS FLARE		416666		24	6		0.25	29.75	25.12	161.87		0.02	2.14	1.81	11.65
2003 YEAR TOTAL							28.63	181.11	874.22	50.29	343.75	7.81	38.40	263.91	9.57	86.41
EXEMPTION CALCULATION	DISTANCE FROM LAND IN MILES															
	18.0											599.40	599.40	599.40	599.40	23352.17

AIR EMISSIONS CALCULATIONS - SECOND YEAR

COMPANY	AREA	BLOCK	LEASE	PLATFORM	WELL		CONTACT	PHONE	REMARKS
EL PASO PRODUCTION	HIGH ISLAND	115	OCS-G 18936		B, C, D & E		LISA J. KAKOS	(832)676-7590	#REFI

OPERATIONS	EQUIPMENT	RATING	MAX. FUEL	ACT. FUEL	RUN TIME		MAXIMUM POUNDS PER HOUR					ESTIMATED TONS				
	Diesel Engines	HP	GAL/HR	GAL/D												
	Nat. Gas Engines	HP	SCF/HR	SCF/D												
	Burners	MMBTU/HR	SCF/HR	SCF/D	HR/D	DAYS	PM	SOx	NOx	VOC	CO	PM	SOx	NOx	VOC	CO
DRILLING	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	16975	819.8925	2937.00	24	80	11.96	54.89	411.29	12.34	89.74	1.71	7.86	58.93	1.77	12.86
	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PRIME MOVER>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	BURNER diesel	0			0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	AUXILIARY EQUIP<600hp diesel	227	10.9641	263.14	6	80	0.50	0.73	7.00	0.56	1.52	0.12	0.18	1.68	0.13	0.36
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(crew)	2065	99.7395	2393.75	6	60	1.46	6.68	50.03	1.50	10.92	0.26	1.20	9.01	0.27	1.96
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(supply)	2065	99.7395	2393.75	10	34	1.46	6.68	50.03	1.50	10.92	0.25	1.14	8.51	0.26	1.88
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(tugs)	12600	608.58	14605.92	12	2	8.88	40.74	305.29	9.16	66.61	0.11	0.49	3.66	0.11	0.80
PIPELINE INSTALLATION	PIPELINE LAY BARGE diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	SUPPORT VESSEL diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	PIPELINE BURY BARGE diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	SUPPORT VESSEL diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(crew)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(supply)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FACILITY INSTALLATION	DERRICK BARGE diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	MATERIAL TUG diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(crew)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	VESSELS>600hp diesel(supply)	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PRODUCTION	RECIP.<600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.<600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.>600hp diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	SUPPORT VESSEL diesel	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TURBINE nat gas	0	0	0.00	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.2 cycle lean nat gas	0	0	0.00	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.4 cycle lean nat gas	0	0	0.00	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	RECIP.4 cycle rich nat gas	0	0	0.00	0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	BURNER nat gas	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	MISC.	BPD	SCF/HR	COUNT												
	TANK-	0			0	0				0.00					0.00	
	FLARE-		0		0	0				0.00					0.00	
	PROCESS VENT-		0		0	0		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	FUGITIVES-			0.0		0				0.00					0.00	
	GLYCOL STILL VENT-		0		0	0				0.00					0.00	
DRILLING	OIL BURN	250			24	2	4.38	71.15	20.83	0.10	2.19	0.11	1.71	0.50	0.00	0.05
WELL TEST	GAS FLARE		416666		24	2		0.25	29.75	25.12	161.87		0.01	0.71	0.60	3.88
2004 YEAR TOTAL							28.63	181.11	874.22	50.29	343.75	2.56	12.58	83.00	3.14	21.78
EXEMPTION CALCULATION	DISTANCE FROM LAND IN MILES											599.40	599.40	599.40	599.40	23352.17
	18.0															

AIR EMISSION CALCULATIONS

OMB Control No. xxxx-xxxx
Expiration Date: Pending

COMPANY	AREA	BLOCK	LEASE	PLATFORM	WELL
EL PASO PROI	HIGH ISLAND	115	OCS-G 18936		B, C, D & E

Year	Emitted Substance				
	PM	SOx	NOx	VOC	CO
2003	7.81	38.40	253.91	9.57	66.41
2004	2.56	12.58	83.00	3.14	21.78
Allowable	599.40	599.40	599.40	599.40	23352.17

H. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS (EIA)

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

(A) Impact Producing Factors (IPF's)

Environmental Resources	Impact Producing Factors (IPFs) Categories and Examples Refer to recent GOM OCS Lease Sale EIS for a more complete list of IPFs					
	Emissions (air, noise, light, etc.)	Effluents (muds, cuttings, other discharges to the water column or seafloor)	Physical disturbances to the seafloor (rigs, anchors, etc.)	Wastes sent to shore for treatment or disposal	Accidents (e.g., oil spills, chemical spills, H2S releases)	Other IPFs you identify
Site-specific at Offshore Location						
Designated topographic features						
Pinnacle Trend area live bottoms						
Eastern Gulf live bottoms						
Chemosynthetic communities						
Water quality		X			X	
Fisheries					X	
Marine Mammals	X				X	
Sea Turtles	X				X	
Air quality	X					
Shipwreck sites (known or potential)						
Prehistoric archaeological sites						
Vicinity of Offshore Location						
Essential fish habitat					X	
Marine and pelagic birds					X	
Public health and safety						
Coastal and Onshore						
Beaches					X	
Wetlands					X	
Shore birds and coastal nesting birds					X	
Coastal wildlife refuges					X	
Wilderness areas					X	
Other Resources You Identify						

Footnotes for Environmental Impact Analysis Matrix

1. *Activities that may affect a marine sanctuary or topographic feature. Specifically, if the well or platform site or any anchors will be on the seafloor within the:*
   - a. *4-mile zone of the Flower Garden Banks, or the 3-mile zone of Stetson Bank;*
   - b. *1000-m, 1-mile or 3-mile zone of any topographic feature (submarine bank) protected by the Topographic Features Stipulation attached to an OCS lease;*
   - c. *Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) criteria of 500 ft from any no-activity zone; or*

d. *Proximity of any submarine bank (500 ft buffer zone) with relief greater than 2 meters that is not protected by the Topographic Features Stipulation attached to an OCS lease.*

2. *Activities with any bottom disturbance within an OCS lease block protected through the Live Bottom Activities (Pinnacle Trend) Stipulation attached to an OCS lease.*

3. *Activities within any Eastern Gulf OCS block where seafloor habitats are protected by the Live Bottom (Low Relief) Stipulation attached to an OCS lease.*

4. *Activities on blocks designated by the MMS as being in water depths 400 meters or greater.*

5. *Exploration or production activities where H2S concentrations greater than 500 ppm might be encountered.*

6. *All activities that could result in an accidental spill of produced liquid hydrocarbons or diesel fuel that you determine would impact these environmental resources. If the proposed action is located a sufficient distance from a resource that no impact would occur, the EIA can note that in a sentence or two.*

7. *All activities that involve seafloor disturbances, including anchor emplacements, in any OCS block designated by the MMS as having high-probability for the occurrence of shipwrecks or prehistoric sites, including such blocks that will be affected that are adjacent to the lease block in which your planned activity will occur. If the proposed activities are located a sufficient distance from a shipwreck or prehistoric site that no impact would occur, the EIA can note that in a sentence or two.*

8. *All activities that you determine might have an adverse effect on endangered or threatened marine mammals or sea turtles or their critical habitats.*

9. *Production activities that involve transportation of produced fluids to shore using shuttle tankers or barges*

(B) Analysis

Site-Specific at Offshore Location:

Designated Topographic Features

There are no IPF's (including effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, and accidents) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to topographic features. The site-specific offshore location of the proposed activities is approximately 70 miles away from the closest designated topographic feature (East Flower Garden Bank). Proximity of any submarine bank (500 ft buffer zone) with relief greater than 2 meters that is not protected by the Topographic Features Stipulation.

It is unlikely that as accidental surface or subsurface oil spill would occur from the proposed activities. Since the crests of designated topographic features in the northern Gulf are found below 10 m, concentrated oil from a surface spill is not expected to reach their sessile biota. Even if a subsurface spill were to occur very near a designated topographic feature, subsurface oil should rise to the surface, and any oil remaining at depth would probably be swept clear of the banks by currents moving around the banks. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Pinnacle Trend Area Live Bottoms

There are no IPF's (including effluents, physical disturbances to the seafloor, and accidents) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to pinnacle trend area live bottoms. The site-specific offshore location of the proposed activities is approximately 75 miles away from the closest pinnacle trend live bottom stipulated block.

It is unlikely tan an accidental surface or subsurface oil spill would occur from the proposed activities. Any surface oil spill resulting from the proposed action would likely have no impact on the biota of the pinnacle trend because the crests of these features are much deeper than 20 m. Even if a subsurface spill were to occur very near the pinnacle trend live bottom area, subsurface oil should rise in the water column, surfacing almost directly over the source location and thus not impact pinnacles. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Eastern Gulf Live Bottoms

The eastern gulf live bottoms are not in the vicinity of El Paso O&G's proposed operations.

Chemosynthetic Communities

There are no deepwater chemosynthetic communities in the vicinity of El Paso O&G's proposed operations.

Water Quality

Effluents and accidents from the proposed activities could potentially cause impacts to water quality.

However, since all discharges will be made in accordance with a general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), operational discharges are not expected to cause significant adverse impacts to water quality.

It is unlikely that an accidental oil spill would occur from the proposed activities. If a spill were to occur, the water quality of marine waters would be temporarily affected by the dissolved components and small oil droplets. Dispersion by currents and microbial degradation would remove the oil from the water column or dilute the constituents to background levels. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Fisheries

An accidental oil spill that may occur as a result of the proposed action has the potential to cause some detrimental effects to fisheries. However, it is unlikely that an accidental surface or subsurface oil spill would occur from the proposed activities. If a spill were to occur in open waters of the OCS proximate to mobile adult finfish or shellfish, the effects would likely be sublethal and the extent of damage would be reduced to the capability of adult fish and shellfish to avoid a spill, to metabolize hydrocarbons, and to excrete both metabolites and parent compounds. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Marine Mammals

Marine mammals may be adversely impacted by several IPF's (including vessel traffic, noise, accidental oil spills, and loss of trash and debris, all of which could occur due to the proposed action. Chronic and sporadic sublethal effects could occur that may stress and/or weaken individuals of a local group or population and make them more susceptible to infection from natural or anthropogenic sources. Few lethal effects are expected from oil spills, chance collisions with service vessels and ingestion of plastic material. Oil spills of any size are estimated to be aperdiodic events that may contact cetaceans. Disturbance (e.g., noise) may stress animals, weaken their immune systems, and make them more vulnerable to parasites and diseases that normally would not be fatal.

The net result of any disturbance would depend on the size and percentage of the population affected, exological importance of the disturbed area, environmental and biological parameters that influence an animal's sensitivity to disturbance and stress, and the accommodation time in response to prolonged disturbance (Geraci and St. Aubin, et al., 2001). Sperm whales are one of 11 whale species that are hit commonly by ships (Laist et al., 2001). Collisions between OCS vessels and cetaceans within the project area are expected to be unusual events.

Sea Turtles

IPF's that could impact sea turtles include vessel traffic, noise, trash and debris, and accidental oil spills. Small numbers of turtles could be killed or injured by chance collision with service vessels or by eating indigestible trash, particularly plastic items, accidentally lost from drill rigs, production facilities and service vessels. Drilling rigs and project vessels produce noise that could disrupt normal behavior patterns and create some stress potentially making sea turtles more susceptible to disease. Oil spills and oil spill response activities are potential that could have lethal effects on turtles. Contact with oil, consumption of oil particles, and oil-contaminated prey could seriously affect individual sea turtles. Oil-spill-response planning and the habitat protection requirements of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 should mitigate thee threats.

Most OCS related impacts on sea turtles are expected to be sublethal. Chronic sublethal effects (e.g., stress) resulting in persistent physiological or behavioral changes and/or avoidance of effected areas could cause declines in survival or productivity, resulting in gradual population declines.

Air Quality

There would be a limited degree of air quality degradation in the immediate vicinity of the proposed activities. Air quality analysis of the proposed activities indicated that the MMS exemption level in not exceeded.

Shipwreck Sites (known or potential)

There are no IPF's (including physical disturbances to the seafloor) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to known or potential shipwreck sites. The proposed activities are not located in or adjacent to an OCS block designated by MMS as having high-probability for the occurrence of shipwrecks and review of the Shallow Hazards Report (submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08, Appendix C, and NTL 98-20) indicates there are no known or potential shipwreck sites located within the survey area.

Prehistoric Archaeological Sites

Although High Island Block 115 is located in an area designated by MMS as having a high probability for the occurrence of prehistoric archaeological sites, there are no IPF's (including physical disturbances to the seafloor) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to prehistoric archaeological sites.

Vicinity of Offshore Location:

Essential Fish Habitat

An accidental oil spill that may occur as a result of the proposed action has the potential to cause come detrimental effects on essential fish habitat. However, it is unlikely that an accidental surface or subsurface oil spill would occur from the proposed activities. If a spill were to occur in open waters of the OCS proximate to mobile adult finfish or shellfish, the effects would likely be sublethal and the extent of damage would be reduced to the capability of adult fish and shellfish to avoid a spill, to metabolize hydrocarbons, and to excrete both metabolites and parent compounds. The activities proposed in the plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Marine and Pelagic Birds

An accidental oil spill that may occur as a result of the proposed action has the potential to impact marine and pelagic birds – birds could become oiled. However, it is unlikely that an accidental oil spill would occur from the proposed activities. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08) Appendix F).

Public Health and Safety

There are no IPF's (including any accidental H_2S releases) from the proposed activities that could cause impacts to public health and safety.

In accordance with 30 CFR 250.417(c) and NTL 2002 (Appendix C) we have submitted sufficient information to justify our request that the area of our proposed activities be classified by MMS as H_2S absent and/or unknown.

Coastal and Onshore:

Beaches

An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities could cause impacts to beaches. However, due to the distance from shore (18 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. Both the historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculations referenced in the publication OCS EIS/EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources. The activities proposed in the plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Wetlands

An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities could cause impacts to wetlands. However, due to the distance from shore (18 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected.

Both the historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculations references in the publication OCS EIS/EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Shore Birds and Coastal Nesting Birds

An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities could cause impacts to shore birds and coastal nesting birds. However, due to the distance from shore (18 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. Both the historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculation referenced in the publication OCS EIS/EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Coastal Wildlife Refuges

An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities could cause impacts to coastal wildlife refuges. However, due to the distance from shore (18 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. Both the historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculation referenced in the publication OCS EIS/EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Wilderness Areas

An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities could cause impacts to coastal wilderness areas. However, due to the distance from shore (18 miles) and the response capabilities that would be implemented, no significant adverse impacts are expected. Both the historical spill data and the combined trajectory/risk calculation referenced in the publication OCS EIS/EA MMS 2002-052 indicate there is little risk of contact or impact to the coastline and associated environmental resources. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by our regional OSRP (refer to information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 Appendix F).

Other Environmental Resources Identified

None

(C) Impacts on Proposed Activities

The site specific environmental conditions have been taken into account for the proposed activities. No impacts are expected on the proposed activities from site-specific environmental conditions.

A Shallow Hazards Report was submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08, Appendix C, and NTL 98-20. A Shallow Hazards Assessment of any seafloor and subsurface geological and manmade features and conditions that may adversely affect operations was submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08 and NTL 98-20.

(D) Alternatives

No alternatives to the proposed activities were considered to reduce environmental impacts.

(E) Mitigation Measures

No mitigation measures other than those required by regulation will be employed to avoid, diminish, or eliminate potential impacts on environmental resources.

(F) Consultation

No agencies or persons were consulted regarding potential impacts associated with the proposed activities. Therefore, a list of such entities has not been provided.

(G) References

Hazard Survey prepared by John Chance & Associates, Inc., January, 1991
MMS EIS – Lease Sale 168
NPDES Permit GMG290000
Air Quality Review (See Attachment G-1 in subject plan)
Oil Spill Response Plan (approved by MMS on July 24, 2002)

I. COASTAL ZONE CONSISTENCY

COASTAL ZONE CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION

Issues identified in the Louisiana and Texas Coastal Zone Management Program include the following: general coastal use guidelines, levees, linear facilities (pipelines); dredged soil deposition; shoreline modifications, surface alterations, hydrologic and sediment transport modifications; waste disposal; uses that result in the alteration of waters draining into coastal waters; oil, gas or other mineral activities; and air and water quality.

A certificate of Coastal Zone Management Consistency for the States of Louisiana and Texas are not required for the supplemental exploratory activities.

The following guidelines are applicable to the proposed operations:

Louisiana:

TOPIC	*GUIDELINE NO.*	*CROSS REFERENCE*
Air Quality	1.2	Section G
Water Quality	1.2	Section E
Permitting Authority	1.6	Sections D thru H
Adverse Effects	1.7	Section H
Multiple Use	1.9	Section B
Waste Storage, Treatment and Disposal Facilities	8.1	Section E
Hazardous Waste Storage, Treatment and Disposal	8.2	Section E
Approved Disposal Sites	8.8	Section E
Radioactive Waste	8.9	Section E
Siting of Exploration, Production Activities	10.3	Sections B and H
Access to Site	10.5	Section B
Best Practical Techniques for Drilling/Production Sites	10.6	Sections B and E
Drilling and Production Equipment Guidelines for Preventing Adverse Environmental Effects	10.10	Section A
Effective Environmental Protection and Emergency or Contingency Plans	10.11	Sections A and F

Texas:

TOPIC	*GUIDELINE NO.*	*CROSS REFERENCE*
Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Oil & Gas Exploration and Production Facilities	Category 2	Section A
Discharges of Wastewater and Disposal of Waste from Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Activities	Category 3	Section E
Construction and Operation of Solid Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	Category 4	Section E
Prevention, Response and Remediation of Oil Spills	Category 5	Section F
Discharge of Municipal and Industrial Waste Water to Coastal Waters	Category 6	Section E
Development in Critical Areas	Category 8	Section B – H
Construction of Waterfront Facilities and Other Structures on Submerged lands	Category 9	Sections A – H
Dredging and Dredged Material Disposal and Placement	Category 10	Section E
Construction in the Beach/Dune System	Category 11	Section A
Alteration of Coastal Historic Areas	Category 15	Section C & H
Transportation	Category 16	Section B
Emission of Air Pollutants	Category 17	Section G
Appropriations of Water	Category 18	Section E
Marine Fishery Management	Category 20	Sections D & H
Administrative Policies	Category 22	Sections D – H

OMB Control No. 1010-0049
Expiration Date:

J. OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM

(USE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH LEASE)

EXPLORATION PLAN	X	DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS COORDINATION DOCUMENT		DEVELOPMENT & PRODUCTION PLAN	

OPERATOR:	EL PASO PRODUCTION OIL & GAS CO.	ADDRESS:	9 GREENWAY PLAZA, RM. 2654
MMS OPERATOR NO.:	00491		HOUSTON, TEXAS 77046
CONTACT PERSON:	LISA J. KAKOS	PHONE NO.	(832) 676-7590

PROPOSED START DATE:	MAY 1, 2003	RIG TYPE: X JU SS PF DS OTHER				DISTANCE TO CLOSEST LAND (IN MILES):	18
NEW OR UNUSUAL TECHNOLOGY	YES		NO	X	ONSHORE SUPPORT BASE(S):	CAMERON, LA	

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION PROPOSED ACTIVITIES:	DRILL, COMPLETE AND TEST FOUR (4) EXPLORATORY WELLS (WELL LOCATIONS B, C, D & E)
	PROJECT NAME, IF APPLICABLE:

PROPOSED WELL/STRUCTURE LOCATIONS

WELL / STRUCTURE NAME	SURFACE LOCATION	BOTTOM-HOLE LOCATION (FOR WELLS)
Platform _ or Well _ Name: B	CALLS: 4000' F W L and 600' F S L OF LEASE OCS G 18936 , HIGH ISLAND AREA, BLOCK 115	CALLS: LEASE OCS , AREA, BLOCK
	X: 3590676 Y: 562920	X: Y:
	LAT: 29°17'17.4592" LONG: 94°0'29.4247"	LAT: LONG:
	TVD (IN FEET): MD (IN FEET): WATER DEPTH (IN FEET):	
Platform _ or Well _ Name: C	CALLS: 2650' F W L and 7000' F S L OF LEASE OCS G 18936 , HIGH ISLAND AREA, BLOCK 115	CALLS: LEASE OCS , AREA, BLOCK
	X: 3589326 Y: 569320	X: Y:
	LAT: 29°18'21.3404" LONG: 94°0'41.5756	LAT: LONG:
	TVD (IN FEET): MD (IN FEET): WATER DEPTH (IN FEET):	
Platform _ or Well _ Name: D	CALLS: 3650' F E L and 4950' F S L OF LEASE OCS G 18936 , HIGH ISLAND AREA, BLOCK 115	CALLS: LEASE OCS , AREA, BLOCK
	X: 3598866 Y: 567270	X: Y:
	LAT: 29°17'57.0214" LONG: 93°58'54.9045"	LAT: LONG:
	TVD (IN FEET): MD (IN FEET): WATER DEPTH (IN FEET):	
Platform _ or Well _ Name: E	CALLS: 3400' F E L and 7200' F S L OF LEASE OCS G 18936 , HIGH ISLAND AREA, BLOCK 115	CALLS: LEASE OCS , AREA, BLOCK
	X: 3599116 Y: 569520	X: Y:
	LAT: 29°18'29.1727 LONG: 93°58'50.9929"	LAT: LONG:
	TVD (IN FEET): MD (IN FEET): WATER DEPTH (IN FEET):	