United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Jackson Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
http://www.es.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:
3100 (020) AM

June 14, 2013

Memorandum

To: State Director, Eastern States (ES-930)

From: Field Manager, Jackson

Subject: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review for Expressions of Interest (EOI) in Louisiana

We have completed our NEPA review for 3 EOIs in ~~Mississippi~~ LA (EOI # 1724, 1725, and 1726). The Environmental Assessment (EA) is attached. This is planned for the upcoming December 2013 lease sale. Please return signed copies of the EA to me for our records. If you have any questions, please contact Alison McCartney at (601) 977-5407.

Grace Guess, Assistant Field Manager
(Acting for) BDawson, Field Manager

Attachment (1)
EA Document

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT/DECISION RECORD

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached environmental assessment (EA), I have determined that the proposed action will not have any significant impacts on the human environment and an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required.

Grace Guess (acting for) 6-14-2013

Bruce Dawson

Date

Field Manager

DECISION RECORD

It is my decision to authorize the offer to lease for Oil and Gas the proposed tracts located in Rapides and Caddo Parishes, Louisiana Meridian, Louisiana with legal descriptions: T2N, R3E, Sec. 28, S/2SW/4 (79.84 acres) (EOI #1724), T1N, R4E, Sec. 12, NESE (37 acres) (EOI #1725), and T3N, R3E, Sec. 10, Lot 3 (0.96 acres), Sec. 14, Lot 3 (0.88 acres), Sec. 32, Lot 7 (7.08 acres), Sec. 62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44) (total of 12.36 acres) (EOI #1726). These nominations are located on privately owned land in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Meridian, Louisiana.

Rationale for Decision

The decision to allow the proposed action does not result in any undue or unnecessary environmental degradation and is consistent with the laws and regulations of the Federal, State, or local government. The proposed action was subject to a 30-day public review.

Tony L Henell 9-13-13

~~Dominica VanKoten, DSD, Natural Resources~~

ASD

Date

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
SOUTHEASTERN STATES FIELD OFFICE
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA) FORM

ES-020-2013-20

PROJECT NAME: EOI #1724, Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Lease EA
EOI #1725, Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Lease EA
EOI #1726, Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Lease EA

TECHNICAL REVIEW:

X	Program	Reviewer	Signature	Date
X	Air Quality	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	Alison McCartney	6/13/13
X	ACEC	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
X	Botanical including T&E Spp.	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
	Communications (Dispatch)			
X	Cultural/Paleontology	John Sullivan Archeologist		6/13/13
X	Energy Policy	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
X	Environmental Justice	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
	Farmlands (Prime & Unique)			
	Fire Management			
X	Floodplain	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
X	Hazardous Material	Brian Kennedy Physical Scientist		6/13/13
X	Invasive & Non-Native Spp.	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
	Lands/Realty			
	Land Law Examiner			
	Law Enforcement			
X	Minerals	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
X	Native American Religious Concerns	John Sullivan Archeologist		6/13/13
	Operations			
	Range Management			
X	Recreation	Alison McCartney	ASM	6/13/13

		Natural Resource Specialist		
X	Soils	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
	Surface Protection			
	Visual Resources			
	Water Rights			
X	Water Quality (Surface & Ground)	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
X	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
X	Wild & Scenic Rivers	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
X	Wilderness	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13
	Wild Horse & Burro			
X	Wildlife including T&E Spp.	Alison McCartney Natural Resource Specialist	ASM	6/13/13

Prepared by: Alison McCartney — Date: 6/13/13
Alison McCartney
Natural Resource Specialist

Reviewed by: Gary Taylor — Date: 6/13/13
Gary Taylor
NEPA Coordinator

Reviewed by: acting Duane Winters — Date: 6/14/13
Duane Winters
Resource Supervisor

Reviewed by: Brian Kennedy — Date: 6/13/13
Brian Kennedy
Acting Minerals Supervisor

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Southeastern States Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206

Environmental Assessment
ES-020-2013-20

EOI #1724, Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Lease EA
EOI #1725, Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Lease EA
EOI #1726, Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Lease EA

Prepared by: Alison McCartney
Date: June 8, 2012

CH 1 – PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

Introduction

This environmental assessment (EA) is prepared to address three proposed federal oil and gas lease nominations in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana pursuant to the Minerals Leasing Act of 1920, as amended. A federal oil and gas lease is a legal contract that grants exclusive rights to the lessee to develop federally owned oil and gas resources.

Need for the Proposed Action

The development of oil and natural gas is essential to meeting the nation's future needs for energy. Private exploration and development of federal oil and gas reserves are integral to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) oil and gas leasing programs under the authority of the Mineral Leasing Act 1920, as amended, the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands of 1947, as amended, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The oil and gas leasing program managed by BLM encourages the development of domestic oil and gas reserves and reduction of U.S. dependence on foreign sources of energy. The tracts considered for lease in this analysis was nominated by Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from private industry.

On February 4, 2013 (EOI #1724) and March 4, 2013 (EOI #1725 and 1726), the BLM Southeastern States Field Office (SSFO) received a request from the BLM Eastern States Office for a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis report on 129.56 acres of land with the following legal descriptions: T2N, R3E, Sec. 28, S/2SW/4 (79.84 acres) (EOI #1724), T1N, R4E, Sec. 12, NESE (37 acres) (EOI #1725), and T3N, R3E, Sec. 10, Lot 3 (0.96 acres), Sec. 14, Lot 3 (0.88 acres), Sec. 32, Lot 7 (7.08 acres), Sec. 62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44) (total of 12.36 acres) (EOI #1726). These nominations are located on privately owned land in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Meridian, Louisiana.

Management Objectives of the Action

The objective of the proposed action is to make available for lease 129.56 acres in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana to provide exclusive rights to the lessee to develop federally owned oil and gas resources.

Land Use Plan Conformance

The proposed action does not conflict with any known State or local planning, ordinance or zoning. This area is not covered by a BLM Resource Management Plan. According to the regulations at 43 CFR 1610.8 (b) (1), however, this environmental assessment will be used as a basis for making a decision on the proposal.

Applicable Regulatory Requirements and Required Coordination

Applicable regulatory requirements and required coordination for lease development of federal oil and gas minerals is authorized by several statutes including: The Mineral Leasing Act, as amended and supplemented (30 U.S.C. 181), The Mineral Leasing Act of 1947, as amended (30 U.S.C. 351-359), The National Historic Preservation Act, The American Indian Religious Freedom Act, The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, and/or other statutes and executive orders.

The following agencies/tribes were contacted (Appendix C):

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Louisiana Ecological Services
Louisiana Natural Heritage Program
Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas
Coushatta Indian Tribe
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Seminole Tribe of Florida
Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Jena Band of Choctaw
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma
Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town

The proposed leases were subject to public review for a 30-day period per publication of a newspaper of local distribution (Appendix E).

Decision(s) That Must Be Made

There are two decisions under consideration from the BLM for the proposed action. The first is to offer the federal oil and gas mineral estate for competitive leasing. The other decision would be to deny the action so that no development and surface disturbance would take place. BLM's policy is to promote oil and gas development as long as it meets the guidelines and regulations set forth by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other subsequent laws and policies passed by the U.S. Congress.

CH 2 – ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

Introduction

Tracts of land have been nominated for a federal oil and gas lease in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana. A federal oil and gas lease is a legal contract that grants exclusive rights to the lessee to develop oil and gas resources that may exist on split estate property.

Location

All three of the EOIs are located in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Meridian, Louisiana and have the following legal descriptions:

EOI #1724 - T2N, R3E, Sec. 28, S/2SW/4 (79.84 acres)

EOI #1725 - T1N, R4E, Sec. 12, NESE (37 acres)

EOI #1726 - T3N, R3E, Sec. 10, Lot 3 (0.96 acres), Sec. 14, Lot 3 (0.88 acres), Sec. 32, Lot 7 (7.08 acres), Sec. 62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44 acres) (total of 12.36 acres)

Proposed Action

The BLM, SSFO received three nominations or EOIs, to lease 129.56 acres of federal mineral estate for oil and gas development in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana. The leases would give the lessee exclusive rights to explore and develop oil and gas reserves on the lease, but does not in itself authorize surface disturbing activities. The competitive lease provides exclusive rights to develop the federal oil and gas resources, but does not obligate the company to drill a well on the federal mineral estate. The lease can be used to consolidate acreage to meet well spacing requirements, and/or the mineral estate may be acquired for speculative value. The BLM will require applicants to adhere to stipulations and lease notices/best management practices for gas wells (Appendix B). The attached stipulations and lease notices/best management practices have been formulated while conducting our impact analysis and are made part of the proposed action.

The proposed nominations, if approved, would be offered for competitive sale with stipulations and notices generated through this and other consultations, as well as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Once awarded, the successful bidder is required to submit an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) to the BLM before any ground disturbance is authorized. In the APD, the company identifies a proposed drill site and provides the BLM with specific details on how and when they propose to drill the well within the constraints of the lease document. Upon receipt of an APD, BLM conducts an onsite inspection with the company, and when possible the private land owner or surface managing agency. NEPA and the Endangered Species Act (ESA) requirements must also be met at the APD stage and in those cases where there is the potential to affect federally or state-listed species, a site specific biological assessment is written, including the results of any biological surveys that may be indicated. This is submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the state wildlife agency for consultation,

as appropriate. The lessee is required, as per lease stipulations, to comply with the recommendations of these consultations.

Typically, after approval of an APD, the petroleum industry follows a general plan and process for all proposed drill sites, as follows:

Spacing for the tract will be 40 acres per well. Preparation for the drilling process includes construction of a road, drilling pad, and reserve pit. Constructed access roads normally have a running surface width of approximately 30 feet; the length is dependent upon the well site location in relation to existing roads or highways. The average length of road construction will be about 0.5 miles. Therefore, about 2 acres would be affected by road construction. Typically 2.5 acres are cleared and graded level for the construction of the drilling pad for a well. If the well is gas and productive, and the flowline is in the road, we can estimate that another 0.5 acres may be affected by flowline construction. The total disturbed area for drilling a productive well will be approximately 5 acres. These disturbances are typical for private or Federal Ownership well locations. The excavation reserve pit is usually about five feet deep and is lined with bentonite clay to retain drilling fluids, circulated mud, and cuttings. Plastic or butyl liners (or its equivalent), that meet state standards for thickness and quality, are used on occasions when soils are determined incapable of holding pit fluids.

Because of the cost of the drilling rig, drilling usually continues around the clock. Wells in this area are usually drilled in 30 days. Once drilling is completed, excess fluids are pumped out of the pit and disposed of in a state authorized disposal site and the cuttings are buried. Wells would be drilled by rotary drilling using mud as the circulating medium. Mud pumps would be used to force mud down the drillpipe, thereby forcing the rock cuttings out the wellbore. Water would normally be from a well drilled on the site, however, water could be pumped to the site from a local pond, stream or lake through a pipe laid on the surface. Approximately 1500 barrels of drilling mud would be typically kept on the location. If a tract is adjacent to a producing field and water production will be expected during the life of the field, separation, dehydration and other production processing may be necessary. Construction of facilities off the Federal lease may be needed to handle this processing. Some processing or temporary storage may be necessary on site.

During well pad construction, the topsoil is stockpiled to be used during restoration activities. If the well is successful, the drill pad would be reduced to about 100' x 100' with the remaining surface area, including the reserve pit, re-graded and restored as per the BLM and surface owner requirements. A lease notice in these proposed leases encourages the use of non-invasive cover plants during all restoration and stabilization activities. Final seed mixtures and plantings are determined with recommendations from BLM with approval of the land owner. The remaining 100' x 100' pad is maintained for the life of the well. The life of a productive well may be 25 years. Following abandonment, the pad is subject to the same restoration parameters.

The following information on the federal mineral tracts is based on information collected during site visits conducted in 2013, aerial photographs, and topographic maps. Mitigation methods for potential negative impacts are listed in Appendix B as lease stipulations and lease notices. These recommended lease stipulations and notices have been developed to provide general habitat

protection and setbacks to exclude sensitive habitats from oil and gas development. Recommended mitigation for the proposed action is suggested as stipulations for freshwater aquatic habitat, cultural resources and tribal consultations, endangered species and special plant species (Appendix B). Additional surveys may be required for special status species after site-specific proposals have been received by BLM during the development phase.

No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, the request to offer the proposed tracts for oil and gas lease would be denied. Potential economic benefits of production from this lease would be jeopardized.

CH. 3 – DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

Introduction

EOIs #1724, 1725, and 1726 are located in Avoyelles Parish in south-central Louisiana. The parcels are entirely within the West Gulf Coastal Plain Ecoregion within the Coastal Plain Province. This region is characterized by a southward facing plain of low, slightly hilly terrain that becomes a flat plain to the south and a broad marshy zone near the coast (USGS 1998).

All 3 nominations are located on privately owned land in Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana Meridian, Louisiana with the following legal descriptions: T2N, R3E, Sec. 28, S/2SW/4 (79.84 acres) (EOI #1724), T1N, R4E, Sec. 12, NESE (37 acres) (EOI #1725), and T3N, R3E, Sec. 10, Lot 3 (0.96 acres), Sec. 14, Lot 3 (0.88 acres), Sec. 32, Lot 7 (7.08 acres), Sec. 62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44) (total of 12.36 acres) (EOI #1726). (Appendix A).

EOI #1724

EOI #1724 consists of 79.84 acres and is located less than a mile west of Grand Cote National Wildlife Refuge. The proposed site is located less than a mile southwest of Highway 194 and less than 2 miles south of Highway 1 (Appendix A). Approximately 40 acres of the nominated parcel consists of old cropland that is currently a pasture with short grasses and wildflowers. Approximately 32 acres is active cropland. A thin line of pines and mixed hardwood trees is located along the entire northern, eastern, and southern boundaries. An additional strip of hardwood trees surrounds a thin creek that runs north/south through the center of the parcel. In addition there is a 2 – 3 acre patch of pine/mixed hardwood forest located near the northern boundary in the center of the tract. An ATV trail is located along the boundaries.

EOI #1725

EOI #1725 consists of 37 acres and is located less than 1 mile south of Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area (Appendix A). The northeast corner of the nominated parcel is within La Vielle Rivere. A tributary to La Vielle Rivere runs through the southeast corner of the tract. Old River Road runs diagonally through the center of the tract with many houses along the road. Approximately 2 acres of the tract consists of a mixed/bottomland hardwood forest.

EOI #1726

EOI #1726 consists of 5 separate tracts totaling 12.72 acres surrounding Highways 107 and 105 near the town of Effie (Appendix A). The 0.96 acre tract located in Sec. 10, Lot 3 consists of ~40% of cleared land (pasture, back yard to a house, shed, and garage) and 60% wooded. The northeastern parcel located in Sec. 14, Lot 3 consists of 0.88 acres of which 95% is cleared active cattle pasture. Five percent of the parcel contains loblolly pines and is located in the southwest corner of the tract (Appendix A). The 1.36 acre tract located in Sec 64 is 100% wooded and consists of a mixed pine/hardwood forest. The 7.08 acre tract located in Sec. 32, Lot 7 in 98% wooded. A house and yard is located in the southeast corner and a gas pipeline runs through the northwest corner of the tract. An intermittent stream runs through the tract and drains into Wiggins Bayou. The tract consists of bottomland hardwood forest. The southern-most tract, which is located in Sec. 62, consists of 2.44 acres and consists of a bottomland hardwood forest. Wiggins Bayou runs through the tract.

Description of Project Area

Based on review of the elements listed on the SSFO NEPA Form and consideration of the Purpose and Need statement prepared for this EA, the following elements will be addressed in this EA: Air Quality, Environmental Justice, Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns, Invasive/Exotic Species, Soils, Special Status Species, Migratory Birds of Concern, Wildlife and Vegetation, Wastes, Hazardous or Solid, Water Quality, Surface/Ground, Wetland/Riparian Areas/Floodplains, and Energy Policy.

Air Quality

The Clean Air Act of 1970, as amended, requires the establishment of National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Both primary and secondary standards are now in effect. Primary standards define levels of air quality that the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) judges to be necessary, with an adequate margin of safety, to protect the public health. Secondary standards define levels of air quality that the Administrator of the EPA judges to be necessary to protect the public from any known or anticipated adverse effects of a pollutant. The NAAQS pollutants are monitored in Louisiana by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ). These include carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, sulfur dioxide, total suspended particulate, particulate matter less than 10 microns, and lead. Ambient air quality measurements taken by the Louisiana Division for Environmental Quality (LDEQ) indicate that ambient air quality for the state is within the standards, except in the Baton Rouge area where air quality is in nonattainment for ozone (2008).

Environmental Justice

Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes ensure that individuals are not excluded from participation in, denied the benefit of, or subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice directs that programs, policies, and activities not have a disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effect on minority and low-income populations.

Cultural Resources

A literature search was conducted at the Louisiana Division of Archaeology online site files. While the areas have not been surveyed and there are recorded sites within one mile of the leasing areas, the proposed lease areas may have sites that would qualify as historic properties (36 CFR 61). A professionally conducted survey for historic properties would add information on human utilization of this area.

Native American Religious Concerns

Federally recognized Native Americans have been contacted about this proposed undertaking. However, currently, there are no known sites used by Native Americans for religious purposes. There are no known Sacred Sites or traditional cultural properties on these tracts. If any such sites are present, access would be by an agreement between the landowner and the Native Americans. The BLM has no authority over access to these tracts. The BLM's responsibility is limited to the area of surface disturbance if or when a proposal for development is submitted.

Invasive Exotic Species

There are a number of non-native species that are considered invasive in Louisiana and are monitored by the Louisiana State University (LSU) Ag Center. The following provides a list of some of the invasive species that can be found in Louisiana:

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME
Alligator weed	*Alternanthera philoxeroides*
Japanese climbing fern	*Lygodium japonicum*
Chinaberry	*Melia azedarach*
Johnson grass	*Sorghum halepense*
Chinese privet	*Ligustrum sinense*
Japanese honeysuckle	*Lonicera japonica*
Brazilian verain	*Verbena brasiliensis*
Cogon grass	*Imperata cylindrica*
Chinese tallow tree	*Triadica sebifera*
Common salvinia	*Salvinia minima*
Hydrilla	*Hydrilla verticillata*
Mimosa	*Albizia julibrissin*
Water hyacinth	*Eichhorinia crassipes*

Source: LSU, 2004; USDA 2007.

Mimosa and tallow trees were observed on the tract located in Sec. 32, Lot 7 of EOI #1726. Invasive species were not observed on the other tracts on the days surveyed.

Soils

EOI #1724

There are 4 soil types in this parcel: Coteau silt loam, 1 – 3% slopes, Gore silt loam, 1 – 5% slopes, Moreland silt loam, and Moreland clay, occasionally flooded. Coteau silt loam is found on ~ 4% of this tract and is commonly found on terraces. It is somewhat poorly drained with a very high available water capacity (about 13.2 in.). Gore silt loam is found on terraces and has a parent material of clayey alluvium. It is moderately well drained with a moderate available water capacity (about 7.2 in). Moreland silt loam is found on natural levees and has a parent material of Red river clayey alluvium. It is somewhat poorly drained with a high available water capacity (about 10.7 in). Moreland clay is found in backswamps and has a parent material of Red river clayey alluvium. It is somewhat poorly drained with a high available water capacity (about 9.9 in.).

EOI #1725

There are 2 soil types in this parcel: Dundee silty clay loam, occasionally flooded and Tensas silty clay, overwash, occasionally flooded. Dundee silty clay loam is found on natural levees and has a parent material of silty alluvium. It is somewhat poorly drained and has a high available water capacity (about 10.8 in.). Tensas silty clay is found on natural levees and is somewhat poorly drained with a high available water capacity (about 11.8 in.).

EOI #1726

There is 1 soil types in the parcel located in Sec. 10, Lot 3: Vick silt loam which is found on terraces. It is somewhat poorly drained with a high available water capacity (about 10.9 in.). There is 1 soil types in the parcel located in Sec. 14, Lot 3: Wrightsville silt loam which is found in depressions with a parent material of silty over clayey alluvium. It is poorly drained with a high available water capacity (about 11.1 in.). There are 2 soil types in the parcel located in Sec. 64: Guyton silt loam, frequently flooded and Kolin silt loam, 1 – 5% slopes. Guyton silt loam is found in flood plains with a parent material of laomy alluvium of Holocene age. It is poorly drained with a very high available water capacity (about 12.2. in.). Kolin silt loam is found on terraces and has a loamy over clayey alluvium parent material. It is moderately well drained with a high available water capacity (about 11 in).

Special Status Species

Current state and federal lists of rare, threatened, endangered, and candidate species were reviewed with regards to potential impacts from the proposed project. Infrared aerial photography, topographic maps, and websites for the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP) were also accessed to determine potential affects that the proposed project could have on special status species. Table 1 provides the USFWS list of federally listed species that occur in Avoyelles Parish. Also included in the table is BLMs determination for potential effects that the proposed leases could have on each species. Below the table is a description of each species, known habitat requirements, and justification for determination.

Table 1: Summary of Effects		
Species	**Federal Status**	**Determination**
Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*)	Endangered	**EOIs #1724 and 1725** No Effect Due to Unsuitable Habitat **EOI #1726** May affect, but is not likely to adversely affect
Louisiana Black Bear (*Ursus americanus luteolus*)	Endangered	**EOI #1724** No Effect Due to Unsuitable Habitat **EOI #1725 and 1726** May affect, but is not likely to adversely affect
Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*)	Candidate	**EOI #1724 and 1726** May affect, but is not likely to adversely affect **EOI #1725** No Effect Due to Unsuitable Habitat

Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) (Endangered)
The pallid sturgeon is a large fish species known from the Mississippi River and its major tributaries including the Red River. This species is dependent upon a fast flowing current for all phases of its life cycle. Spawning occurs over rock or gravel bottom areas from March to April. EOIs #1724 and 1725 do not contain tributaries that drain into the Mississippi or Red River and therefore there should be no effect on the pallid sturgeon from projects on these 2 EOIs. However, the parcel located in Sec 32, Lot 7 of EOI #1726 contains a tributary that drains into Wiggins Bayou which drains into the Red River. The southern-most parcel of this EOI, which is located in Sec. 62 contains Wiggins Bayou. If development were to occur on the proposed 2 leases, runoff from the proposed sites could impact water quality and quantity in this watershed which could in turn have an effect on this species. As a result, projects on these 2 parcels of EOI #1726 may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the pallid sturgeon.

Louisiana Black Bear (*Ursus americanus luteolus*) (Threatened)
The Louisiana black bear is federally listed as threatened. This species typically inhabits bottomland hardwood (BLH) communities but other habitat types may be utilized. Remoteness is an important spatial feature of black bear habitat. In the Southeast, remoteness is relative to forest tract size and the presence of roads. High quality cover for bedding, denning, and escape cover is of great importance as forests become smaller, more fragmented, and as human encroachment and disturbance in bear habitat increases.

Presently there are two known breeding bear subpopulations occurring in two Louisiana river basins; the Tensas River Basin, located in northeastern Louisiana, and the Atchaflaya River Basin located in south-central Louisiana. There are reported sightings of bears outside of these areas, but it is unknown whether these bears are reproducing or are only wandering subadult and males. EOI #1724 is primarily cleared land with primarily cleared land surrounding the parcel for a 2 mile radius and is therefore probably unsuitable for the Louisiana black bear. BLM has

determined that there will be no effect on the Louisiana black bear from the proposed lease for EOI #1724. EOI #1725 and the tract located in Sec. 62 of EOI #1726 are primarily bottomland hardwood forests and open water. This is suitable habitat for this species and therefore the proposed leases may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect, the Louisiana black bear.

Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*) (Candidate)
Sprague's pipit is a small, short-distance migrant strictly associated with well-drained, open grasslands and fields, with a preference for native grasses of intermediate height and thickness; and moderate litter depths for foraging and nesting. Breeding occurs throughout the summer (April – November) on the native prairies of the Great Plains (southern regions of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba provinces to Montana, North and South Dakota, and Minnesota). Pipits migrate southward from September into November, to wintering grounds on the grasslands of Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and into Mexico. Threats to this species include destruction and decline of breeding and wintering habitat suitability due to agriculture, overgrazing, and introduction of non-native grasses. Sprague's pipits are likely to be observed in open fields with few to no shrubs or woody vegetation.

EOI #1724 and the parcel located in Sec. 14 of EOI #1726 contain pastures and therefore contain potential suitable habitat for the Sprague's pipit. As a result, BLM has determined that these 2 parcels may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect the Sprague's pipit. EOI #1725 does not contain suitable habitat for this species and therefore there will be no effect on this species.

Migratory Bird Species of Concern

The following provides a list of migratory birds of conservation concern with the potential to occur on EOI #1724 and the parcel located in Sec. 62 of EOI #1726 based on species preference for bottomland hardwood forests in all successional stages (Peterson 1980, Hamel 1992, and USFWS 2020).

Species	Habitat Suitability
Little blue heron	Suitable, Optimal
Swallow-tailed kite	Marginal, Suitable, Optimal
Yellow Rail	Marginal
Red-headed woodpecker	Marginal, Suitable, Optimal
Wood thrush	Marginal, Optimal
Prairie warbler	Marginal
Cerulean warbler	Suitable
Prothonotary warbler	Suitable, Optimal
Worm-eating warbler	Marginal, Suitable
Swainson's warbler	Suitable, Optimal
Kentucky warbler	Marginal, Optimal
Louisiana waterthrush	Marginal

The following provides a list of migratory birds with the potential to occur on EOIs #1725 and some parcels of 1726 based on species preference for pine/mixed hardwood forests in all successional stages:

Species	Habitat Suitability
American swallow-tailed kite	Marginal
American kestrel	Marginal, Suitable, Optimal
Chuck-will's-widow	Suitable, Optimal
Red-headed woodpecker	Marginal
Brown-headed nuthatch	Marginal
Bewick's wren	Marginal
Wood thrush	Marginal, Suitable
Prairie warbler	Marginal, Optimal
Worm-eating warbler	Marginal
Kentucky warbler	Marginal
Louisiana waterthrush	Marginal
Bachman's sparrow	Marginal, Suitable
Smith's Longspur	Marginal
Harris's sparrow	Marginal

No migratory bird species of concern are known to occur on the proposed tracts, although there is potential for use by several species.

Wildlife and Vegetation

EOI #1724

EOI #1724 consists of 79.84 acres and is located less than a mile west of Grand Cote National Wildlife Refuge. The proposed site is located less than a mile southwest of Highway 194 and less than 2 miles south of Highway 1 (Appendix A). Approximately 40 acres of the nominated parcel consists of old cropland that is currently a pasture with short grasses and wildflowers. Approximately 32 acres is active cropland. A thin line of pines and mixed hardwood trees is located along the entire northern, eastern, and southern boundaries. An additional strip of hardwood trees surrounds a thin creek that runs north/south through the center of the parcel. In addition there is a 2 – 3 acre patch of pine/mixed hardwood forest located near the northern boundary in the center of the tract. Dominant tree species include red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), American elm (*Ulmus americana*), and yaupon (*Ilex vomitoria*). Hardwood trees range in height from 5 – 25 feet tall. Pine trees average 30 feet tall. An ATV trail is located along the boundaries. The area within a two mile radius of this parcel is primarily cleared for agriculture.

Wildlife diversity is likely limited due to the high percentage of cleared land, however common species likely to occur include: white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), southern short-tailed shrew (*Blarina caroliniensis*), evening bat (*Nycticeius humeralis*), and golden mouse (*Ochrotomys nuttalli*). Bird species that likely occur on this tract include: chuck-will's-widow

(*Caprimulgus carolinensis*), great crested flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*), and Carolina chickadee (*Poecile carolinensis*). Reptile and amphibian species likely to occur include: southern leopard frog (*Rana utriculara*), northern cricket frog (*Acris crepitans crepitans*), southern copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix phaeogaster*), speckled kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getula holbrooki*), and box turtle (*Terrapene carolina triunguis*).

EOI #1725

EOI #1725 consists of 37 acres and is located less than 1 mile south of Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area (Appendix A). The northeast corner of the nominated parcel is within La Vielle Rivere . A tributary to La Vielle Rivere runs through the southeast corner of the tract. Old River Road runs diagonally through the center of the tract with many houses along the road. Approximately 2 acres of the tract consists of a mixed/bottomland hardwood forest. Dominant tree species include: water oak (*Quercus nigra*), willow oak (*Q. phellos*), sweetgum, red maple (*Acer rubrum*). The area within a 2 mile radius of this tract is primarily open water and bottomland hardwood forest.

Due to the close proximity to the River, wildlife diversity is probably high for this tract. Mammals likely to occur include: Seminole bat (*Lasiurus seminolus*), Eastern woodrat (*Neotoma floridana*), and swamp rabbit (*Sylvilagus aquaticus*). Bird species that could occur include: swallow-tailed kite (*Elanoides forficatus*), Mississippi kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*), bachman's warbler (*Vermivora bachmanii*), red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), barred owl (*Strix varia*), and yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*). Amphibians and reptiles that likely occur are: marbled salamander (*Ambystoma opacum*), southern dusky salamander (*Desmognathus auriculatus*), eastern cricket frog (*Acris crepitans crepitans*), river cooter (*Chrysemys concinna*), yellow-bellied water snake (*Nerodia erythrogaster*), and green water snake (*Nerodia cyclopion*).

EOI #1726

EOI #1726 consists of 5 separate tracts totaling 12.72 acres surrounding Highways 107 and 105 near the town of Effie (Appendix A). The 0.96 acre tract located in Sec. 10, Lot 3 consists of ~40% of cleared land (pasture, back yard to a house, shed, and garage) and 60% wooded with dominant tree species of white oak (*Quercus alba*) and loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*). The northeastern parcel located in Sec. 14, Lot 3 consists of 0.88 acres of which 95% is cleared active cattle pasture. Five percent of the parcel contains loblolly pines and is located in the southwest corner of the tract. The 1.36 acre tract located in Sec 64 is 100% wooded and consists of a mixed pine/hardwood forest. Dominant tree species include; white oak, southern red oak (*Q. rubra*), and loblolly pine. The 7.08 acre tract located in Sec. 32, Lot 7 in 98% wooded. A house and yard is located in the southeast corner and a gas pipeline runs through the northwest corner of the tract. An intermittent stream runs through the tract and drains into Wiggins Bayou. The tract consists of bottomland hardwood forest. Dominant tree species include: water oak (*Q. nigra*), willow oak (*Q. phellos*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), water hickory (*Carya aquatica*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*). The southern-most tract consists of 2.44 acres and consists of a bottomland hardwood forest. Wiggins Bayou runs through the tract. Dominant tree species include; water oak, willow oak, green ash, and sugarberry (*Celtis occidentalis*). The area within a 2 mile radius of all of these tracts, except for the southern-most tract located in Sec. 64 is ~50% cleared for housing and roads and 50% pine/mixed hardwood forest. The area within 2 miles of the tract in Sec. 64 is almost entirely bottomland hardwood forest and open water.

Wildlife for all the tracts except the one located in Sec. 64 is likely limited due to some cleared acreage and urban environment. However, common species that likely occurs include: opossum, American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) and blue jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*), red-tailed hawk, and common garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*). Wildlife located on the tract in Sec. 64 is likely diverse due to the bayou and rich habitat within and surrounding the tract. Species likely to occur includes: northern raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), nine-banded armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*), white-tailed deer, swamp rabbit, evening bat, red bat (*Lasiurus borealis*), red-tailed hawk, little blue heron (*Florida caerulea*), great egret (*Casmerodius albus*), cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus*), yellow-bellied water snake, and river cooter.

Wastes, Hazardous or Solid

During the on site inspections, no hazardous or solid waste disposal site were found on the lease tracts.

Water Quality, Surface/Ground

Surface Water Quality

The most frequently cited suspected causes of impairment for all water bodies combined in Louisiana are fecal coliforms, primarily from septic tanks and municipal sewage treatment systems; low dissolved oxygen from sewage, agriculture, or natural causes; sediment-related problems such as turbidity, suspended solids, and siltation caused by agriculture, forestry, sewage systems, construction, hydro-modification, resource extraction, or natural processes; and mercury related to fish consumption advisories, due primarily to atmospheric deposition of mercury on the watershed. Many of the suspected sources of water quality impairment are known collectively as nonpoint source pollution because it typically does not come from a single point of discharge but runs across the land when it rains and is carried through small canals and streams to major water bodies (LDEQ 2008).

Many of Louisiana's water bodies remain impaired for the designated use of fish and wildlife propagation. This is largely because there are many possible causes and sources of impairment impacting this use, and any one of these causes can result in a water body being considered impaired for fish and wildlife propagation. There are more than 30 different suspected causes of impairment reported as impacting fish and wildlife propagation. With the exception of mercury, all of the top eight suspected causes of impairment generally can be related to nonpoint sources of pollution. The remaining causes of impairment generally are related to various forms of industry, small business, or municipal sources (LDEQ 2008)

Ground Water Quality

The results of the Baseline Monitoring Program indicate that water quality is good in Louisiana aquifers. Although the overall quality of the state's ground water is good, there are more than 200 sites where active investigation or remediation of contaminated ground water is taking place, not including underground storage tank or Superfund sites. There also were 14 public water supply systems impacted by VOC contamination of ground water between 1989 and 2002 (GWPC 2009b).

The proposed sites are located within the Mississippi embayment aquifer system which consists of 6 aquifers that crop out as an arcuate band of poorly consolidated to unconsolidated, bedded sand, silt and clay. Geologic units of the aquifer system range from Late Cretaceous to middle Eocene in age. These tracts are located within the Middle Claiborne aquifer. Aquifers of the Mississippi embayment aquifer system consist of an interbedded sequence of poorly consolidated fluvial, deltaic, and marine deposits in which diagenesis or postdepositional geochemical processes have not greatly altered the original pattern of permeability. The hydraulic conductivity of the unconsolidated to poorly consolidated sediments that compose the aquifers of the Mississippi embayment aquifer system does not appear to have been greatly reduced by cementation or compactions. Consequently, the distribution of hydraulic conductivity and transmissivity of the Mississippi embayment aquifer system can be inferred from maps of sediment lithofacies, if a direct correlation between sediment type and aquifer permeability is assumed.

Wetlands/Riparian Areas/Floodplains

A thin creek is located in EOI #1724 which drains into Bayou Lacombe Tassin and then into La Vieille Riviere. La Vielle Riviere and a tributary are located within EOI #1725. An intermittent stream is located in Sec. 64 of EOI #1726 and drains into Wiggins Bayou. Wiggins Bayou is located within Sec. 62 of EOI #1726.

Energy Policy

The area contains no features related to energy development, production, supply or distribution.

Ch. 4 - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Introduction

This chapter assesses potential environmental consequences associated with direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the Proposed Action and alternatives.

Based on review of the elements listed on the JFO NEPA Form and consideration of the Purpose and Need statement prepared for this EA, the following elements will be addressed in this EA: Air Quality, Environmental Justice, Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns, Invasive/Exotic Species, Soils, Special Status Species, Migratory Birds of Concern, Wildlife and Vegetation, Wastes, Hazardous or Solid, Water Quality, Surface/Ground, Wetland/Riparian Areas/Floodplains, and Energy Policy.

Air Quality

If the lease is developed for oil and gas production, impacts to air quality associated with construction, drilling, production and abandonment could come from the following sources: (1.)

fugitive dust generated from vehicle traffic along dirt or gravel roads during transportation of employees and equipment; (2.) exhaust from heavy machinery, vehicles, compressors, drilling rig prime movers, generators, and other internal combustion engines used during site construction, drilling, flowline installation, production, and abandonment and other production equipment such as pumps, separators, heater treaters, boilers; and (3.) fugitive VOC escaping from leaky pipe valves, flanges, and storage tanks during loading of crude on to tank trucks, and accidental releases/spills of hydrocarbons.

Fugitive dust created during road, drill pad, flowline construction, and abandonment would increase suspended particulates in the air. Also, the regulated air pollutants nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur oxides (SOx), VOC, and particulates (Pm) will be emitted from the above referenced sources. These conditions could temporarily impact the ambient air quality in the immediate vicinity of the leased area. The generation of suspended particulates, a regulated pollutant, could cause a temporary and localized disturbance to people who work in the area. However, the impacts from the combined frequency and volume of fugitive dust and regulated air pollutants are expected to be minimal, very localized, and of short duration.

Environmental Justice

There is no adverse human health and environmental effects anticipated from potential development on minority and low-income populations in the areas surrounding this tract.

Cultural Resources and Native American Religious Concerns

Cultural resource surveys have not been conducted, therefore direct and indirect impacts may occur to cultural resources or to a potentially sacred Native American religious sites if there is ground disturbance. Direct impacts are those such as completely destroying a site by bulldozing the area and workers picking up artifacts. Indirect impacts are those such as erosion or compaction of the soil on the site. However, if sites are located and recorded before ground disturbance begins, these impacts can be avoided or mitigated.

A stipulation regarding cultural resources and Native American religious concerns applies to this lease (Appendix B) and is applicable for all the proposed parcels. The stipulation states that the BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect historic properties and/or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act and other authorities. If currently unknown burial sites are discovered during development activities associated with this lease, these activities must cease immediately, applicable law on unknown burials will be followed and, if necessary, consultation with the appropriate tribe/group of federally recognized Native Americans will take place.

Invasive/Exotic Species

Surface disturbing activities have the potential to introduce or promote the spread of invasive, nonnative plant species. Impacts are dependent on the species planted during restoration activities and the management of the site during and following restoration. Revegetating areas after soil disturbance with competitive grasses greatly reduces the ability for invasive species to

take hold in an area. The Natural Resources Conservation Service recommends the mixture below for revegetation efforts in Louisiana:

Blend #1 LA (weight in pure live seed or PLS lb/ac)

- Switchgrass 60% = 2.4 lb
- IL Bundleflower 20% = 2.4 lb
- Partridge Pea 15% = 1.2 lb
- Black-eyed Susan 3% = .03 lb
- Plains Coreopsis 2% = .02 lb

A lease notice regarding invasive/exotic species applies to this lease (Appendix B) and is applicable for all of the proposed parcels. The lease notice states that the use of native or non-invasive plants in seeding mixtures will be encouraged to stabilize disturbed areas and during restoration activities. Construction sites will be surveyed for invasive species prior to ground disturbance. If invasive species are found, the proper control measures will be used to either eradicate the species from the area or minimize its spread to other areas.

Soils

Well site and access road construction would have direct impacts to soils. These impacts would be limited to those areas where vegetation is removed and construction occurs. The direct impacts would be of two types: (1) physical removal, leveling and mixing of surface soils and (2) soil compaction. The first impact would be caused by site preparation for construction of the well pad, related structures, road construction, flowline construction and wind and water erosion after vegetation is removed. This would cause a mixing of soil horizons and cause a short term loss of soil productivity. The second impact, soil compaction, would be caused by vehicle and machinery travel. Compaction decreases air and water infiltration into the soil profile thus reducing soil productivity. The indirect impact would be that of erosion and siltation of drainages and streams. Prompt cultivation and re-vegetation of impacted soil areas should reduce the possibility of soil erosion thus preventing an increase of siltation into drainages or streams from run-off. Site specific conditions of approval would be developed prior to approval of an APD to address soil erosion.

Special Status Species

Pallid Sturgeon

EOIs #1724 and 1725 do not contain tributaries that drain into the Mississippi or Red River and therefore the pallid sturgeon should not be affected by projects on these 2 EOIs. BLM has determined that the proposed leases on EOI #1724 and 1725 will have no effect on the pallid sturgeon. However, the parcel located in Sec 32, Lot 7 of EOI #1726 contains a tributary that drains into Wiggins Bayou which drains into the Red River. Also, the southern-most parcel of this EOI, which is located in Sec. 62 contains Wiggins Bayou. If development were to occur on the proposed 2 leases, runoff from the proposed sites could impact water quality and quantity in Wiggins Bayou and potentially the Red River, which could in turn have an effect on this species. As a result, BLM has determined that projects on these 2 parcels of EOI #1726 may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the pallid sturgeon.

Louisiana Black Bear
EOI #1724 is primarily cleared land with primarily cleared land surrounding the parcel for a 2 mile radius and is therefore probably unsuitable for the Louisiana black bear. BLM has determined that the proposed lease for EOI #1724 will have no effect on the Louisiana black bear. EOI #1725 and the tract located in Sec. 62 of EOI #1726 are primarily bottomland hardwood forests and open water. This is suitable habitat for this species and therefore the proposed leases may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the Louisiana black bear.

Sprague's Pipit
EOI #1724 and the parcel located in Sec. 14 of EOI #1726 contain pastures and therefore contain potential suitable habitat for the Sprague's pipit. As a result, these 2 parcels may affect, but are not likely to affect the Sprague's pipit. EOI #1725 does not contain suitable habitat for this species and therefore will have no effect on this species.

Informal consultation was initiated with FWS. FWS concurred with our determination of "no effect" for the pallid sturgeon for EOI #1724 and 1725 and "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" the pallid sturgeon for EOI #1726. FWS agreed with our determination of no effect for the Louisiana black bear from EOI #1724 and may affect, but not likely to adversely affect the black bear for EOI #1725 and 1726. FWS also agreed with our determination of may affect, but not likely to adversely affect Sprague's pipit for EOI #1724 and 1726 and no effect for EOI #1725.

Consultation with the LNHC occurred and they reviewed their files for records indicating the occurrence of rare plants and animals, outstanding natural communities, natural or scenic rivers, or other elements of special concern within or near the project site. No records were found.

Approval of the proposed leases does not in itself authorize any ground disturbance. If there is any future ground disturbance activities, the lessee will be required to submit an Application for Permit to Drill (APD). Additional consultation with FWS will occur at this time, if necessary. Stipulations and lease notices regarding rare species apply to this proposal. The stipulation states that the BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further the conservation and management objectives for threatened, endangered, or other special status plant or animal species or their habitat to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. The lease notice gives recommendations for disposing produced water in such a way as to protect aquatic habitats for and to avoid potential impacts to special status fish, mussels, turtles, snails, plants, and migratory birds.

To protect threatened, endangered, candidate, proposed, and BLM sensitive plant species a second stipulation applies to this lease and applies to all proposed parcels. The stipulation states that all suitable special status plant species habitat will be identified during environmental review of any proposed surface use activity. If field examination indicates that habitat of one or more of these species is present, the BLM will require a survey by a qualified botanist for special status plants during periods appropriate to each species. Operations will not be allowed in areas where sensitive plants would be affected.

Migratory Bird Species of Concern

The lists of migratory birds that have the potential to occur on the proposed tracts are based on the presence of bottomland hardwood forests in all successional stages for EOI #1725 and the southern-most parcel of EOI #1726 and mixed pine/hardwood forests for EOI #1724 and the remaining parcels of EOI #1726. Nesting and foraging habitat for birds will be altered dramatically if forests are cut for oil and gas development. Many of the species with the potential to occur on these tracts could move to similar habitats in surrounding areas. After the wells are put into production and during reclamation activities bird species diversity would be altered depending on successional stage of the site and adequacy of restoration efforts.

To protect perch and roosting sites and terrestrial habitats for and to avoid potential impacts to migratory birds and federally listed wildlife a lease notice applies to this lease and applies to all proposed parcels. The lease notice provides recommendations regarding reserve pits, maximum design speeds for roads, and powerline construction to minimize effects on migratory birds.

Wildlife and Vegetation

The Reasonable Foreseeable Development Scenario (RFD) for EOI # 1724 predicts that 4 federal wells will be drilled from 1 pad. The total disturbance predicted would be 6.09 acres, with 5.74 acres disturbed for the well pad and pit, 0.69 acres for the access road, and 0.34 acres reclaimed. (Appendix D). The RFD for EOI # 1725 predicts that multiple federal wells will be drilled from 1 pad. The total disturbance predicted would be 6.65 acres, with 6.03 acres disturbed for the well pad and pit, 0.69 acres for the access road, and 0.34 acres reclaimed. (Appendix D). The RFD for EOI # 1726 predicts that 8 federal wells will be drilled from 2 pads. The total disturbance predicted would be 12.17 acres, with 11.48 acres disturbed for the well pad and pit, 1.38 acres for the access road, and 0.68 acres reclaimed. (Appendix D).

Many of the species expected to occur on these sites have broad habitat requirements and would continue to be found in a variety of habitats in the surrounding areas. Wildlife use of the sites after wells are put into production would vary depending on vegetation and succession stage. Once put into production, well pads would be reduced in size and reserve pits would be graded and seeded. The producing well sites would be subject to regular maintenance and inspection. Wildlife use of sites is dependent on the adequacy of restoration. However, over the life of the wells, some of the acreage would be excluded from utilization by most wildlife species.

Wastes, Hazardous or Solid

The operations would typically generate the following wastes; (a) discharge of drilling fluids and cuttings into the reserve pits; (b) wastes generated from used lubrication oils, hydraulic fluids, and other fluids used during production of oil and gas, some of which may be characteristic or listed hazardous waste; and (c) service company wastes from exploration and production activities as well as containment of some general trash. Certain wastes unique to the exploration, development, and production of crude oil and natural gas have been exempted from Federal Regulations as hazardous waste under Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976. The exempt waste must be intrinsic to exploration, development or

production activities and is not generated as part of a transportation or manufacturing operation. The drilling fluids, drill cuttings, and produced waters are classified as a RCRA exempt waste, and the proposed action would not introduce hazardous substances into the environment if they are managed and disposed of properly under Federal, State, and local waste management regulations and guidelines.

Water Quality, Surface/Ground

Construction would cause some minor erosion and re-deposition of soil a short distance away from the construction area. Due to the topography within and around these parcels, Black Lake and the surrounding wetlands could serve as an accumulation point for surface runoff, re-deposited sediments via erosion, and developmental effluent. Site specific conditions of approval would be developed prior to approval of an APD to protect surface water quality. This may include but is not limited to construction of ditches, berms, terraces or other similar structures. Areas not needed for production would be reclaimed and stabilized to control erosion.

Improper casing and/or cementation can result in contamination of ground water aquifers. The BLM requires that the operator must isolate freshwater-bearing formations and other usable water containing 10,000 ppm or less of total dissolved solids (TDS) and other mineral-bearing formations and protect them from contamination by using proper casings. In addition, the BLM requires lining the reserve and water pit with a suitable liner on a case-by-case basis.

Wetlands/Riparian Areas/Floodplains

To protect the water quality of watersheds and natural stream substrate and morphology and to avoid potential impacts to aquatic species and their habitat a stipulation regarding freshwater aquatic habitat applies to all 3 leases. The stipulation states that no surface occupancy or disturbance, including discharges, are permitted within 250 feet of a river, stream, wetland spring, headwater, wet meadow, wet pine savanna, pond, tributary, lake, coastal slough, sand bar, vernal pools, calcareous seepage marsh, or small, marshy calcareous stream. Because EOI #1724, 1725, and the parcels located in Sec. 62 and 64 of EOI #1726 contain streams, rivers or bayous, the majority of each of these parcels would not allow for surface occupancy.

No Action

Under this alternative, the parcels within the proposed action would remain unleased at this point in time. It could be offered for leasing in the future, but may be subject to additional environmental analysis at that point in time. If the parcels were not leased there would be no direct impacts to the potential drill location and therefore no effects on all of the critical elements above except Cultural Resources and Native American Religious Concerns (see below). As compared to the proposed action, there would be less disturbance resulting from oil and gas related actions.

Cultural Resources

If the areas are not leased and cultural resource surveys are not conducted, direct and indirect impacts may occur. Direct impacts are those such as completely destroying a site by "relic hunters" or by people picking up artifacts. Other direct impacts may be the mixing of layers in a site by plowing or the destruction of a site by land leveling. Indirect impacts are those such as after timber thinning or clear-cutting erosion of the remains of a site. Hunting activities may cause other impacts to the surface such as the deposition of spent ammunition shells and other items. However, the use of the properties is the purview of the land owner, and any cultural resource site and its artifacts are the property of the land owner.

Native American Religious Concerns

Under this alternative, places of Native American Religious Practice could be impacted by activities of the landowner, unless there was a formal agreement between the landowner and the Native American tribe. Direct impacts could be the destruction of a site, and an indirect impact could be the landowner placing a fee on the use of the area.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts are the impacts to the environment which result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonable foreseeable future actions. Since the proposed action would not authorize surface occupancy, no environmental impacts are anticipated on the lease. Hence, the proposed action will not contribute to the impacts to other past, present, or reasonable foreseeable actions. For Cultural Resources and Native American Religious Concerns this is dependent upon cultural resource surveys being conducted.

Energy Policy

Energy Policy Act of 2005 – Sets forth an energy research and development program covering: (1) energy efficiency; (2) renewable energy; (3) oil and gas; (4) coal; (5) Indian energy; (6) nuclear matters and security; (7) vehicles and motor fuels, including ethanol; (8) hydrogen; (9) electricity; (10) energy tax incentives; (11) hydropower and geothermal energy; and (12) climate change technology.

Title III: Oil and Gas

Subtitle B: Natural Gas
(Sec. 313) Designates FERC as the lead agency for coordinating federal permits and other authorizations and compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Directs FERC to establish a schedule for all federal authorizations.

Subtitle C: Production
(Sec. 322) Amends the Safe Drinking Water Act to exclude from the definition of underground injection the underground injection of fluids or propping agents (other than diesel fuels) pursuant to hydraulic fracturing operations related to oil or gas, or geothermal production activities.

Subtitle F: Access to Federal Lands
(Sec. 361) Requires the Secretary of the Interior to perform an internal review of current federal onshore oil and gas leasing and permitting practices.
(Sec. 364) Amends the Energy Act of 2000 to revise the requirement that the Secretary of the Interior, when inventorying all onshore federal lands, identify impediments or restrictions upon oil and gas development.
(Sec. 366) Amends the Mineral Leasing Act to set deadlines for an expedited permit application process.
(Sec. 368) Prescribes guidelines governing energy right-of-way corridors on federal land. Directs the Secretaries of Agriculture, of Commerce, of Defense, of Energy, and of the Interior (the Secretaries), in consultation with FERC, states, tribal or local government entities, affected utility industries, and other interested persons, are directed to consult with each other and to: (1) designate corridors for oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines and electricity transmission and distribution facilities on federal land in the 11 contiguous Western States; (2) incorporate the designated corridors into the relevant energy land use and resource management or equivalent plans; and (3) ensure that additional corridors are promptly identified and designated.
(Sec. 371) Amends the Mineral Leasing Act to cite conditions for the reinstatement of oil and gas leases terminated for certain failure to pay rentals.

Subtitle G: Miscellaneous
(Sec. 390) States that action by the Secretary of the Interior in managing the public lands, or the Secretary of Agriculture in managing National Forest System Lands, with respect to certain oil or gas drilling related activities shall be subject to rebuttable presumption that the use of a categorical exclusion under NEPA would apply if the activity is conducted pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act for the purpose of exploration or development of oil or gas.

CH. 5 - LIST OF AGENCIES AND PERSONS CONSULTED:

The following agencies/tribes were contacted (Appendix C):

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Louisiana Ecological Services
Louisiana Natural Heritage Program
Louisiana State Historic Preservation Officer
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe
Caddo Indian Tribe
Chickasaw Nation
Alabama Coushatta Tribe
Coushatta Tribe
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana
Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town
Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town
Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
Mississippi Band of Choctaw

Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma

Literature Cited

LDEQ, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. 2008. Final Draft 2008 Louisiana Water Quality Inventory: Integrated Report.

LDWF, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. 2004. Rare Species Tracking List and Fact Sheet. Louisiana Natural Heritage Program.

Hamel, P. 1992. The Land Manager's Guide to the Birds of the South.

Peterson, R. 1980. Birds of Eastern and Central North America.

USDA, United States Department of Agriculture. 2007. Nonindigenous Species List – Louisiana. Southeast Ecological Science Center.

USFWS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2002. Birds of Conservation Concern.

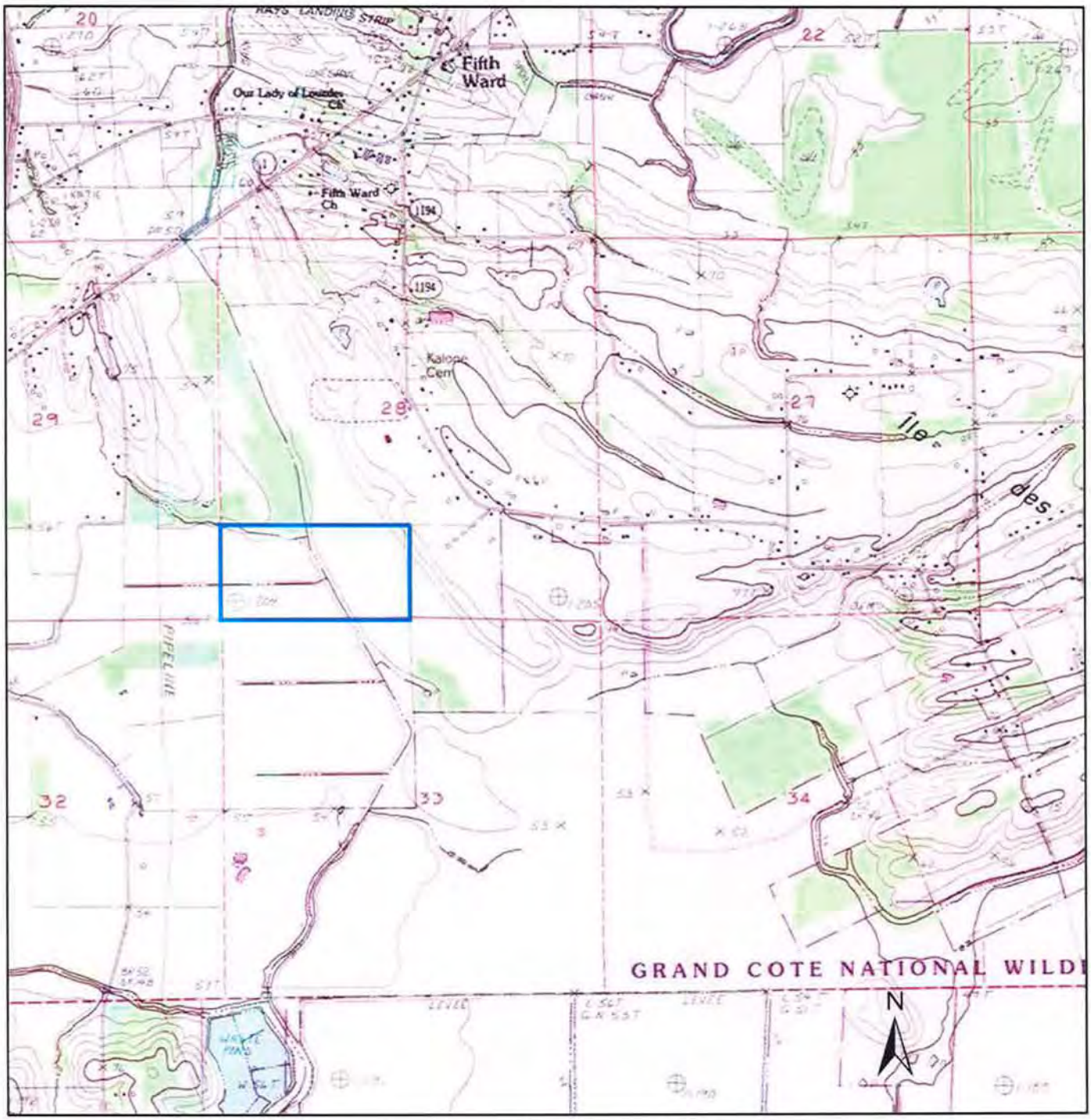
List of Preparers

Specialist Name	Title, Organization
Alison McCartney	Natural Resource Specialist
John Sullivan	Archaeologist
Gary Taylor	Planning and Environmental Coordinator

APPENDIX A

Proposed Lease Tract Locations

Proposed Federal Oil and Gas Lease
EOI 1724



2,000 1,000 0 2,000 4,000 Feet

Proposed Lease Area

Oil and Gas Wells

Dry Hole, Temporarily Abandoned

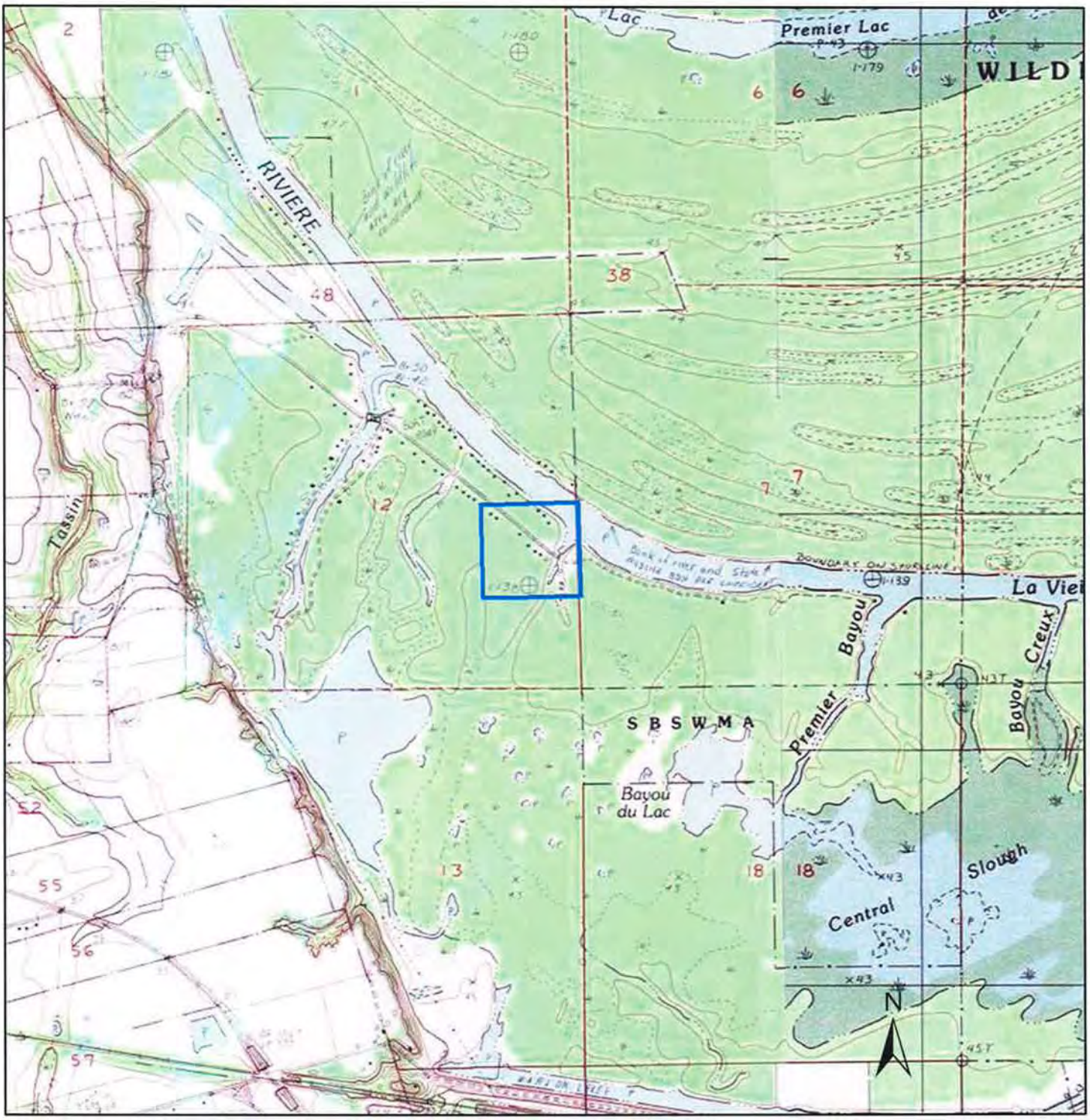
Proposed lease area
Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana Meridian
T. 2N., R. 3E.,
Sec.28, S1/2SW1/4
Total 79.84 acres

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Southeastern States Field Office
Jackson, Mississippi

This map contains portions of the following USGS 1:24,000 Topographic Ouadrangles: Effie, Belle D'Eau

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of this data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.

Proposed Federal Oil and Gas Lease
EOI 1725



2,000 1,000 0 2,000 4,000 6,000 Feet

Proposed Lease Area

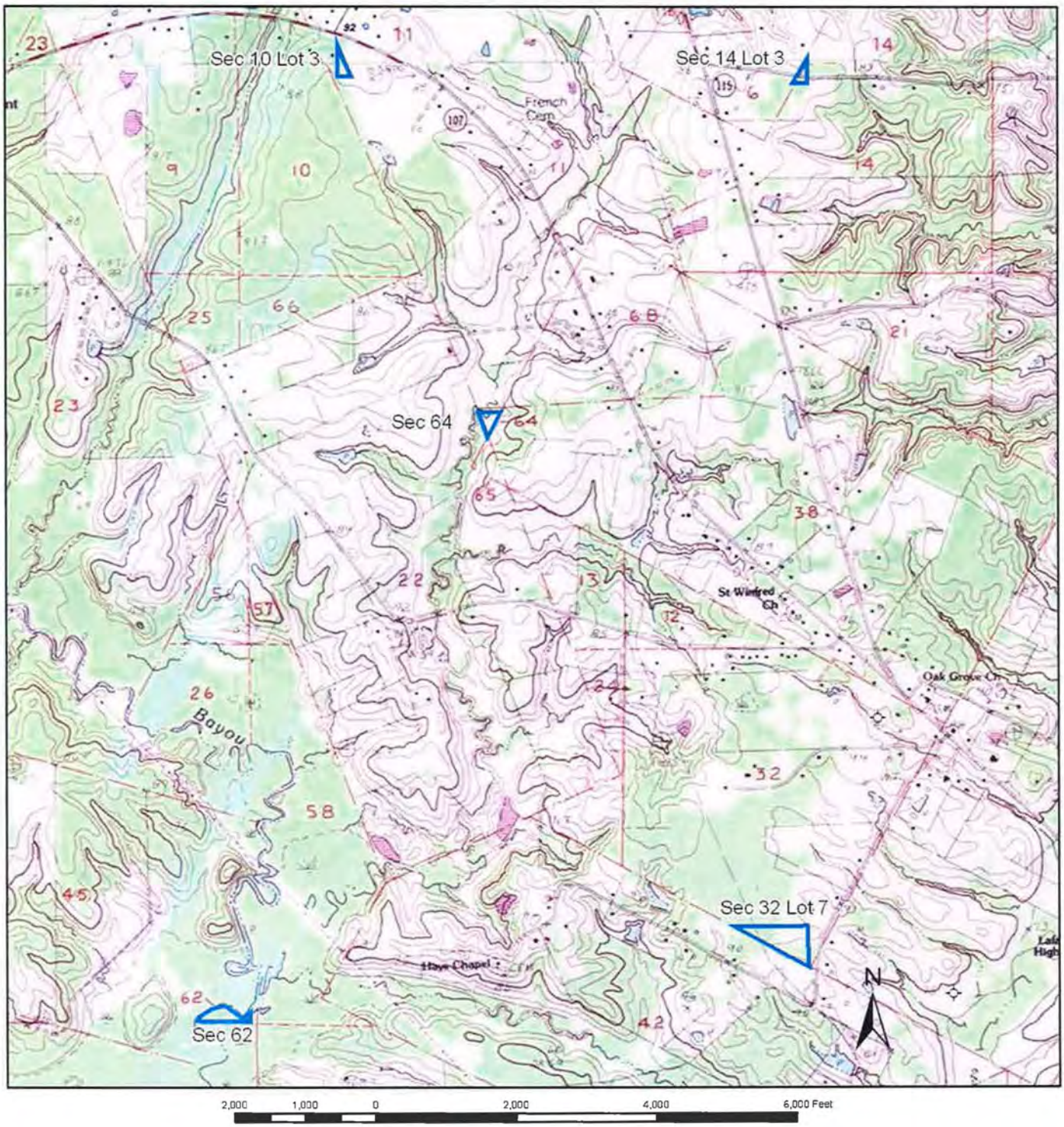
Proposed lease area
Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana Meridian
T. 1N., R. 4E., Sec.12, NE1/4SE1/4
37 acres.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Southeastern States Field Office
Jackson, Mississippi

This map contains portions of the following USGS 1:24,000 Topographic Quadrangles: Marksville South, Moreauville

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or

Proposed Federal Oil and Gas Lease
EOI 1726



Proposed Lease Area

Oil and Gas Wells

Dry Hole, Temporarily Abandoned

Proposed lease area
Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana Meridian
T. 3N., R. 3E.,
Sec.10, Lot 3 - 0.96 acres
Sec.14, Lot 3 - 0.88 acres
Sec.32, Lot 7 - 7.08 acres
Sec.62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44 acres)
Sec.64, All (fractional - 1.36 acres)
Total 12.72 acres.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Southeastern States Field Office
Jackson, Mississippi

This map contains portions of the following USGS 1:24,000 Topographic Ouadrangles: Effie, Buckeye

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of this data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.

APPENDIX B

Proposed Lease Stipulations and Lease Notices

Stipulations

Cultural Resources and Tribal Consultation

Stipulation: This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. These obligations may include a requirement that you provide a cultural resources survey conducted by a professional archaeologist approved by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). If currently unknown burial sites are discovered during development activities associated with this lease, these activities must cease immediately, applicable law on unknown burials will be followed and, if necessary, consultation with the appropriate tribe/group of federally recognized Native Americans will take place. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated.

Endangered Species

Stipulation: The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that will contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity that may affect any such species or critical habitat until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. ' 1531 et seq., including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.

Exception: None

Modification: None

Waiver: None

Sensitive Plant Species

Stipulation (CSU): All suitable special status plant species habitat will be identified during environmental review of any proposed surface use activity. If field examination indicates that habitat of one or more of these species is present, the BLM will require a survey by a qualified botanist for special status plants during periods appropriate to each species. Operations will not be allowed in areas where sensitive plants would be affected.

Objective: To protect threatened, endangered, candidate, proposed, and BLM sensitive plant species.

Exception: An exception may be granted if the operator agrees to implement measures developed in consultation with USFWS and in coordination with State agencies.
Modification: The stipulation may be modified if it is determined that a portion of the lease area does not contain sensitive plant species habitat.

Waiver: The stipulation may be waived if, based on field surveys, it is determined that the lease area does not contain sensitive plant species habitat.

Freshwater Aquatic Habitat

Stipulation (NSO): No surface occupancy or disturbance, including discharges, are permitted within 250 feet of a river, stream, wetland spring, headwater, wet meadow, wet pine savanna, pond, tributary, lake, coastal slough, sand bar, vernal pools, calcareous seepage marsh, or small, marshy calcareous stream. If the slope exceeds 10 percent, the buffer may be extended to 600 feet to provide adequate protection for aquatic habitats and associated species.

Objective: To protect the water quality of watersheds and natural stream substrate and morphology and to avoid potential impacts to aquatic species and their habitat.

Exception: An exception may be granted if the operator agrees to 1) span creeks, rivers, wetlands, and floodplains by attaching pipelines to bridges; 2) directionally drill wells and pipelines from upland sites under creeks, rivers, other waters, and wetlands or3) implement other measures developed in consultation with USFWS and in coordination with State agencies.

Modification: The buffer may be reduced if the adjacent waterway has been surveyed for 100 yards upstream and 300 yards downstream of the site, and the results document the lack of suitable/occupied/critical habitat for listed species which may be affected by the project, as determined by the BLM and USFWS.

Waiver: None

Louisiana Black Bear

Stipulation: No surface disturbance within 50 feet of a potential den tree or within outside 10 feet outside of the drip line, whichever is greater. A potential den tree is defined as any tree which measures 36 inches DBH or greater located within breeding habitat.

Objective: To protect Louisiana black bear potential den trees. denning habitat.

Exception: An exception may be granted if the operator agrees to implement measures developed in coordination with USFWS and appropriate State agencies.

Modification: Temporary surface use may be permitted if USFWS concurs that the action would

not adversely affect Louisiana black bear actual or candidate den trees, bear breeding habitat, or critical suitable habitat.

Waiver: None

Lease Notices/Best Management Practices

Disposal of Produced Water

Objective: To protect aquatic habitats for and to avoid potential impacts to special status fish, mussels, turtles, snails, plants, and migratory birds.

The preferred method for disposal of produced water will be through reinjection to a permeable formation with total dissolved solids (TDS) content higher than 10,000 milligrams per liter (mg/L) where the aquifer is not hydrologically connected to caves, wetlands, or surface water. In Alabama, the injection of produced water is regulated by the Alabama State Oil and Gas Board. In Mississippi, the injection of produced water is regulated by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the Mississippi Oil and Gas Board.

If reinjection is not practicable, closed-containment treatment systems should be used to contain and treat produced water for those contaminants and sediments exceeding State standards or EPA criteria. Salt content of any surface ponds for produced water, pigging pits, or other fluids must be less than 7,500 microsiemens per centimeter (μS/cm). If surface pond salt content is greater than 7,500 μS/cm, if other bird toxicity is present, or if the surface exhibits sheen, then the ponds must be netted or covered with floating balls, or other methods must be used to exclude migratory birds.

Produced waters may be released into an impounded reservoir if there is documentation that the discharge site and affected waters do not support special status species, are not designated critical habitat, and State and Federal water quality standards/criteria are met.
Produced waters may be released into a stream/river if the discharge site and affected waters have been recently surveyed and lack special status species, or if the applicant conducts approved surveys documenting the absence of special status species, State and Federal water quality standards/criteria are met, and a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit is obtained. The applicant should be aware that some species can be surveyed only during certain times of the year.

Produced waters may be released into a stream/river if the applicant can document that the produced waters would not adversely affect special status species. Water quality tests would be conducted on stream segment(s) or other locations proposed as discharge points, volumes to be released, and any settling ponds or other treatments proposed to improve wastewater quality. The water quality test data, any monitoring proposed, and other available information about general coalbed methane effluent characteristics (from published or unpublished literature) shall be reviewed by USFWS. Information about timing of the releases in relation to low water and other planned BMPs would also be required. Testing would include analysis of the discharge site and affected waters for chemical oxygen demand (COD), conductivity, total suspended solids (TSS), As, Hg, Se, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH). Dissolved oxygen and ammonia standards/criteria must be met in bottom waters if they support listed benthic or epibenthic species. If a special status species has been documented to be more sensitive than State/Federal standards/criteria, site-specific standards for that species may be imposed. Calculations would be

based on State standards (or Federal CCC criteria for protection of freshwater aquatic life when the State has not determined a standard for these parameters).

Migratory Birds and Federally Listed Wildlife

Objective: To protect perch and roosting sites and terrestrial habitats for and to avoid potential impacts to migratory birds and federally listed wildlife.

Any reserve pit that is not closed within 10 days after a well is completed and that contains water must be netted or covered with floating balls, or another method must be used to exclude migratory birds.

All powerlines must be built to protect raptors and other migratory birds, including bald eagles, from accidental electrocution, using methods detailed by the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC 2006)

Perching and Nesting Birds and Bats

Objective: To prevent birds and bats from entering or nesting in or on open vent stack equipment.

Open vent stack equipment, such as heater-treaters, separators, and dehydrator units, will be designed and constructed to prevent birds and bats from entering or nesting in or on such units and, to the extent practical, to discourage birds from perching on the stacks. Installing cone-shaped mesh covers on all open vents is one suggested method. Flat mesh covers are not expected to discourage perching and will not be acceptable.

Invasive and Non-Native Species

Objective: To discourage the spread of invasive, non-native plants.

Use of native or non-invasive plants in seeding mixtures will be encouraged to stabilize disturbed areas and during restoration activities. Construction sites will be surveyed for invasive species prior to ground disturbance. If invasive species are found, the proper control measures will be used to either eradicate the species from the area or minimize its spread to other areas. If cogongrass is found on site, equipment will be washed before exiting the site to prevent the spread of this highly invasive species to other locations. Post-construction monitoring for cogongrass and other invasive plant species should be conducted to ensure early detection control. In the case of split-estate lands, final seed mixtures will be formulated in consultation with the private landowner.

Pesticide Application

Objective: To protect the water quality of watersheds and natural stream substrate and morphology supporting special status species and their host species.

Any ground application of herbicides or other pesticides, sterilants, or adjuvants within 150 feet of listed species or habitat will require site-specific control measures developed in coordination or formal consultation with USFWS. No aerial application of herbicides or pesticides will be permitted.

APPENDIX C

Correspondence

United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Southeastern States Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
http://www.es.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:
8100 (020) JMS Rapides Parishes, LA EOI 1724

Feb. 21, 2013

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Louisiana Office of Cultural Development
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-44247

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received an Expression of Interest (EOI 1724) to lease federal minerals under privately owned surface, i.e. split-estate minerals. The Bureau's reasonably foreseeable development scenario (RFD) for this proposed lease is 4 wells from 1 pad to be constructed on private surface with no more than 6.43 acres total, this includes access road, pipelines and pad, to be disturbed accessing federal minerals. The legal locations of the approximately 79.84 acres of federal mineral tracts are as follows (map enclosed):

Louisiana Meridian
Avoyelles Parish (Effie and Belle D'Eau Quadrangles)
T. 2 N., R. 3 E., Sec. 28, S1/2SW1/4 (Approx. 79.84 ac.)

Development locations have not been determined on a site-specific basis. Specific locations proposed for development are determined by the developer and surface owners. The BLM's surface responsibilities rest only within the boundaries of any proposed development.

A review of the Louisiana Division of Archaeology online site files shows no sites within the lease sale area although there are some sites within one mile of the proposed lease area. An archaeological survey will be required before any development and or ground disturbing activities begin. Also the report must be approved by both the Louisiana Division of

Archaeology and the BLM before any ground disturbing activities take place. Any needed consultation will be concluded before ground-disturbing activities begin.

Your concurrence of these procedures for Section 106 compliance is requested in 30 days. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact John M. Sullivan, Archeologist, at (601) 977-5439 or email at John_M_Sullivan@BLM.Gov.

Sincerely,

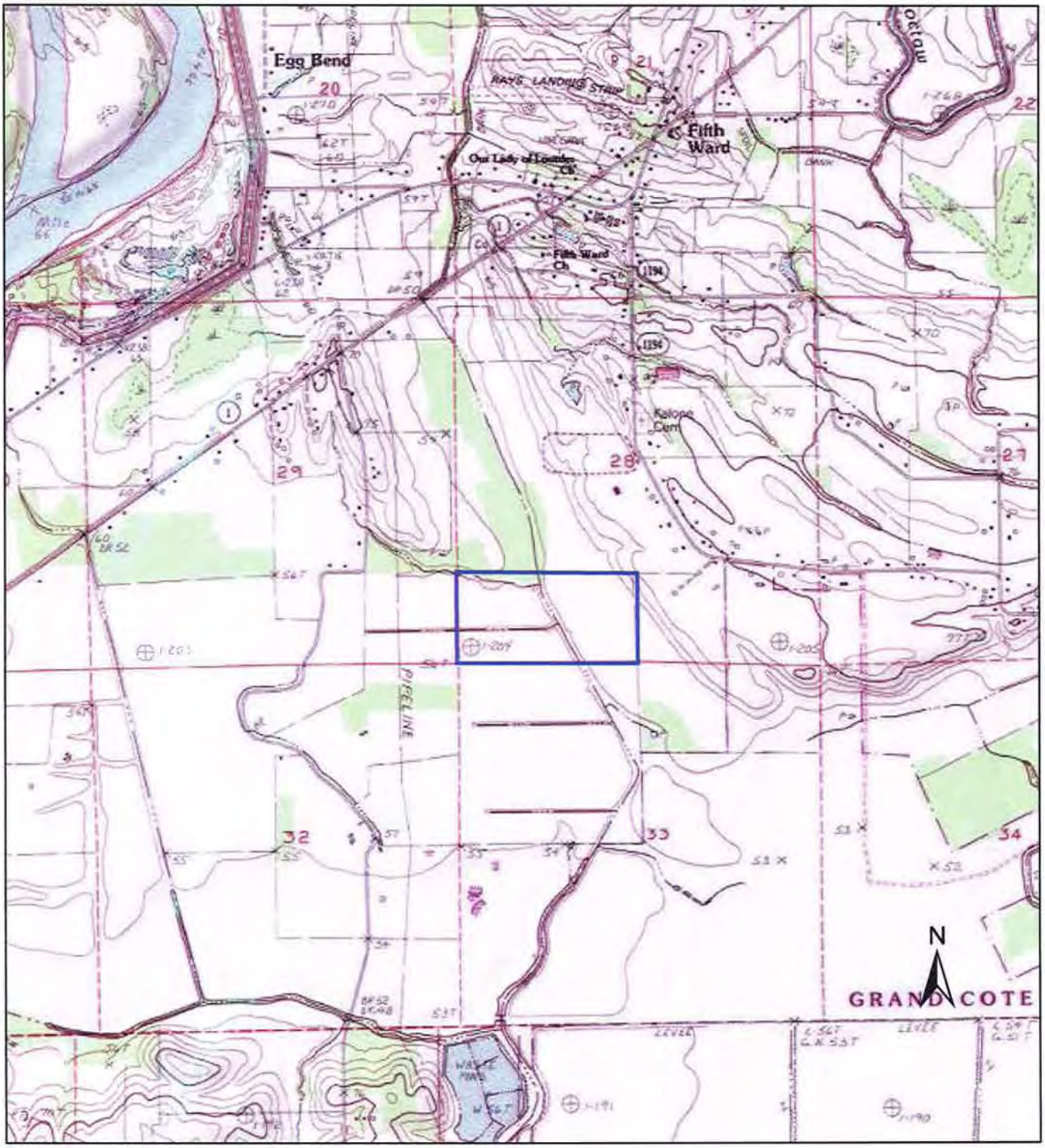
Original Signed
Duane Winters

Duane Winters,
Assistant Field Manager
Division of Lands and Renewable Resources

Enclosure
1 Map

bc:
JFO CF & RF
ES RF
DWinters
~~AMcCartney~~
ES020: JMSullivan:02/21/13:601-977-5400:Rapides.T.2N.R.3E.Sec.28.EOI 1724.SHPO.Ltr

Proposed Federal Oil and Gas Lease
EOI 1724



2,000 1,000 0 2,000 4,000 Feet

Proposed Lease Area

Proposed lease area
Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana Meridian
T. 2N., R. 3E.,
Sec.28, S1/2SW1/4
Total 79.84 acres

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Southeastern States Field Office
Jackson, Mississippi

This map contains portions of the following USGS 1:24,000 Topographic Ouadrangles: Effie and Belle D'Eau

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of this data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.

United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Southeastern States Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
http://www.es.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:
8100 (020) JMS Avoyelles Parishes, LA EOI 1724

Feb. 21, 2013

Chairman Earl Barbry, Sr.
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 332
Marksville, Louisiana 70523

Dear Chairman Barbry:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received an Expression of Interest (EOI 1724) to lease federal minerals under privately owned surface, i.e. split-estate minerals. The Bureau's reasonably foreseeable development scenario (RFD) for this proposed lease is 4 wells from 1 pad to be constructed on private surface with no more than 6.43 acres total, this includes access road, pipelines and pad, to be disturbed accessing federal minerals. The legal locations of the approximately 79.84 acres of federal mineral tracts are as follows (map enclosed):

Louisiana Meridian
Avoyelles Parish (Effie and Belle D'Eau Quadrangles)
T. 2 N., R. 3 E., Sec. 28, S1/2SW1/4 (Approx. 79.84 ac.)

Development locations have not been determined on a site-specific basis. Specific locations proposed for development are determined by the developer and surface owners. The BLM's surface responsibilities rest only within the boundaries of any proposed development.

A review of the Louisiana Division of Archaeology online site files shows no sites within the lease sale area although there are some sites within one mile of the proposed lease area. An archaeological survey will be required before any development and or ground disturbing activities begin. Also the report must be approved by both the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the BLM before any ground disturbing activities take place. Any needed consultation will be concluded before ground-disturbing activities begin.

If you are aware of any sites or areas which are currently used for religious purposes or you recognize as sacred sites on these privately owned lands, please let us know so that impacts will not occur. As provided by law, these locations will be held in confidence.

Your information is requested within 30 days. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the BLM's processes or procedures concerning its consideration of cultural resources for this undertaking, please contact John M. Sullivan, Archaeologist, at (601) 977-5400 or email at John_M_Sullivan@BLM.Gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed
Bruce Dawson

Bruce Dawson,
Field Manager

Enclosure
1 Map

cc via email: Mr. Earl Barbry, Jr., Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

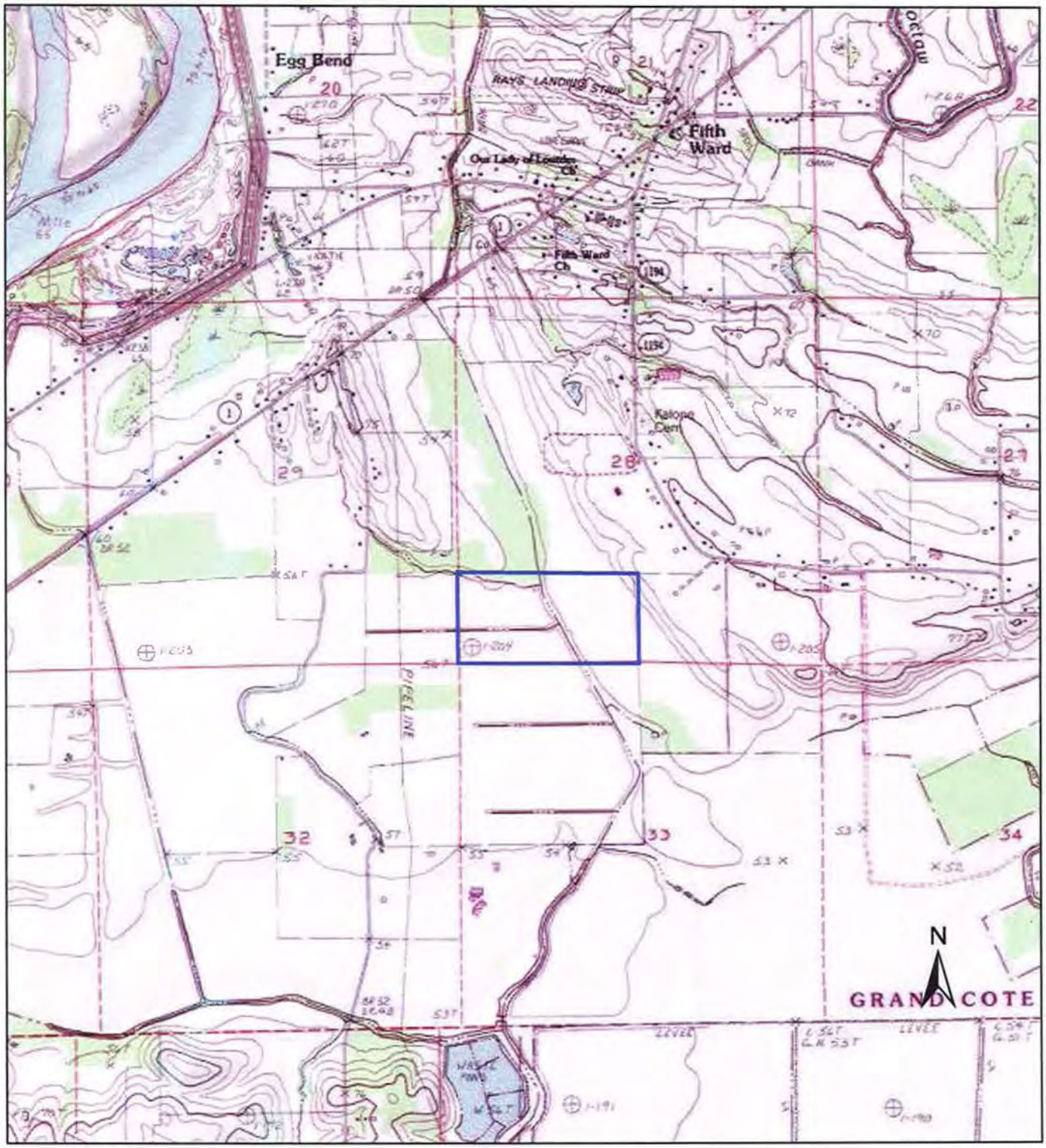
Same letter sent as an original w/ a cc via email; to the attached list.

bc:
JFO CF & RF
ES RF
DWinters
AMcCartney
ES020: JMSullivan:02/21/13:601-977-5400:Avoyelles.T.2N.R.3E.Sec.28.EOI 1724.NA.Ltr

Original to:	**cc: to these:**
Mr. Earl Barbry, Sr., Chairman Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 331 Marksville, Louisiana 70523	Mr. Earl Barbry, Jr., Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Tunica - Biloxi Tribe 151 Melacon Dr. Marksville, LA 71351 earlii@tunica.org
Kevin Sickey, Chairman Coushatta Indian Tribe P.O. Box 818 Elton, LA 70532	Send Hard Copy to Mike Tarpley Linda Langley, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Mike Tarpley, Deputy THPO P.O. Box 818 Elton, LA 70532 llangley@mcneese.edu kokua.aina57@gmail.com
John Paul Darden, Chairman Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 661 Charenton, LA 70523	Kimberly S. Walden, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 661 Charenton, LA 70523 kim@chitimacha.gov
James E. Billie, Chairman 6300 Stirling Road Hollywood, Florida 33024	Dr. Paul N. Backhouse, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Anne Mullins, Deputy THPO 34725 W. Boundary Road Clewiston, FL 33440 paulbackhouse@semtribe.com; annemullins@semtribe.com (863) 983-6549 (863) 983-6549 ext. 12262
Leonard Harjo, Principal Chief Seminole Nation of Oklahoma P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, Oklahoma 74884	Natalie Deer, Cultural Preservation Office P.O. Box 1768 Seminole, OK 74868-1768 ndeere@seminolenation.com
Only send email to Preservation Officer Colabe III Clem Sylestine, Second Chief Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas 571 State Park Road 56 Livingston, TX 77351	Bryant J. Celestine, Historical Preservation Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas 571 State Park Road 56 Livingston, TX 77351 celestine.bryant@actribe.org

Original to:	**cc: to these:**
Only send email to Preservation Officer Tarpie Yargee, Chief Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town P.O. Box 187 Wetumka, OK 74883	Augustine Asbury, 2nd Chief/ Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Officer P.O. Box 187 Wetumka, OK 74883 aqttcultural@yahoo.com
Only send email to Preservation Officer Gregory Pyle, Chief Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Drawer 1210 Durant, Oklahoma 74702-1210	Ian Thompson PhD, RPA, THPO, Tribal Archaeologist, Director Historic Preservation Dept. Johnnie L. Jacobs, Section 106 Coordinator 580-775-0914, 580-920-3181 (Fax) 1-800-522-6170 ext. 2216 P.O. Drawer 1210 Durant, OK 74702 ithompson@choctawnation.com; jjacobs@choctawnation.com
Phyliss J. Anderson, Chief Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians P.O. Box 6010 Philadelphia, MS 39350	Mr. Ken Carleton, Cultural/Historic Preservation Office Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians P.O. Box 6257 Philadelphia, MS 39350 kcarleton@choctaw.org
B. Cheryl Smith, Chief Jena Band of Choctaw P.O. Box 2717 Jena LA 71342	Dana Masters, Tribal Council and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Jena Band of Choctaw P.O. Box 2717 Jena LA 71342 danammasters@aol.com

Proposed Federal Oil and Gas Lease
EOI 1724



2,000 1,000 0 2,000 4,000 Feet

Proposed Lease Area

Proposed lease area
Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana Meridian
T. 2N., R. 3E.,
Sec.28, S1/2SW1/4
Total 79.84 acres

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Southeastern States Field Office
Jackson, Mississippi

This map contains portions of the following USGS 1:24,000 Topographic Ouadrangles: Effie and Belle D'Eau

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United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Southeastern States Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
http://www.es.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:
8100 (020) JMS Avoyelles Parish, LA EOI 1725

April 08, 2013

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Louisiana Office of Cultural Development
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-44247

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received an Expression of Interest (EOI 1725) to lease federal minerals under privately owned surface, i.e. split-estate minerals. The Bureau's reasonably foreseeable development scenario (RFD) for this proposed lease is multiple wells from 1 pad to be constructed on private surface with no more than 6.99 acres total, this includes access road, pipelines and pad, to be disturbed accessing federal minerals. The legal locations of the approximately 40 acres of federal mineral tracts are as follows (map enclosed):

Louisiana Meridian
Avoyelles Parish (Marksville South and Moreauville Quadrangles)
T. 1 N., R. 4 E., Sec. 12, NE1/4 SE1/4 (Approx. 40 ac.)

Development locations have not been determined on a site-specific basis. Specific locations proposed for development are determined by the developer and surface owners. The BLM's surface responsibilities rest only within the boundaries of any proposed development.

A review of the Louisiana Division of Archaeology online site files shows no sites within the lease sale area although there are some sites within one mile of the proposed lease area. A section of the lease document will state that before the BLM approves any development proposal, a survey that meets current professional standards and a report that meets Louisiana

Division of Archaeology requirements may be required on a site-specific basis. A report of survey results must be approved by both the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the BLM before any ground disturbing activities take place. Any needed consultation will be concluded before ground-disturbing activities begin.

In addition, if a development proposal, Notice of Staking (NOS) or Application for Permit to Drill (APD) is submitted, a stipulation will be included which covers accidental discovery and requires additional consultation with both your office and the appropriate federally recognized Native Americans.

Your concurrence of these procedures for Section 106 compliance is requested in 30 days. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact John M. Sullivan, Archeologist, at (601) 977-5439 or email at John_M_Sullivan@BLM.Gov.

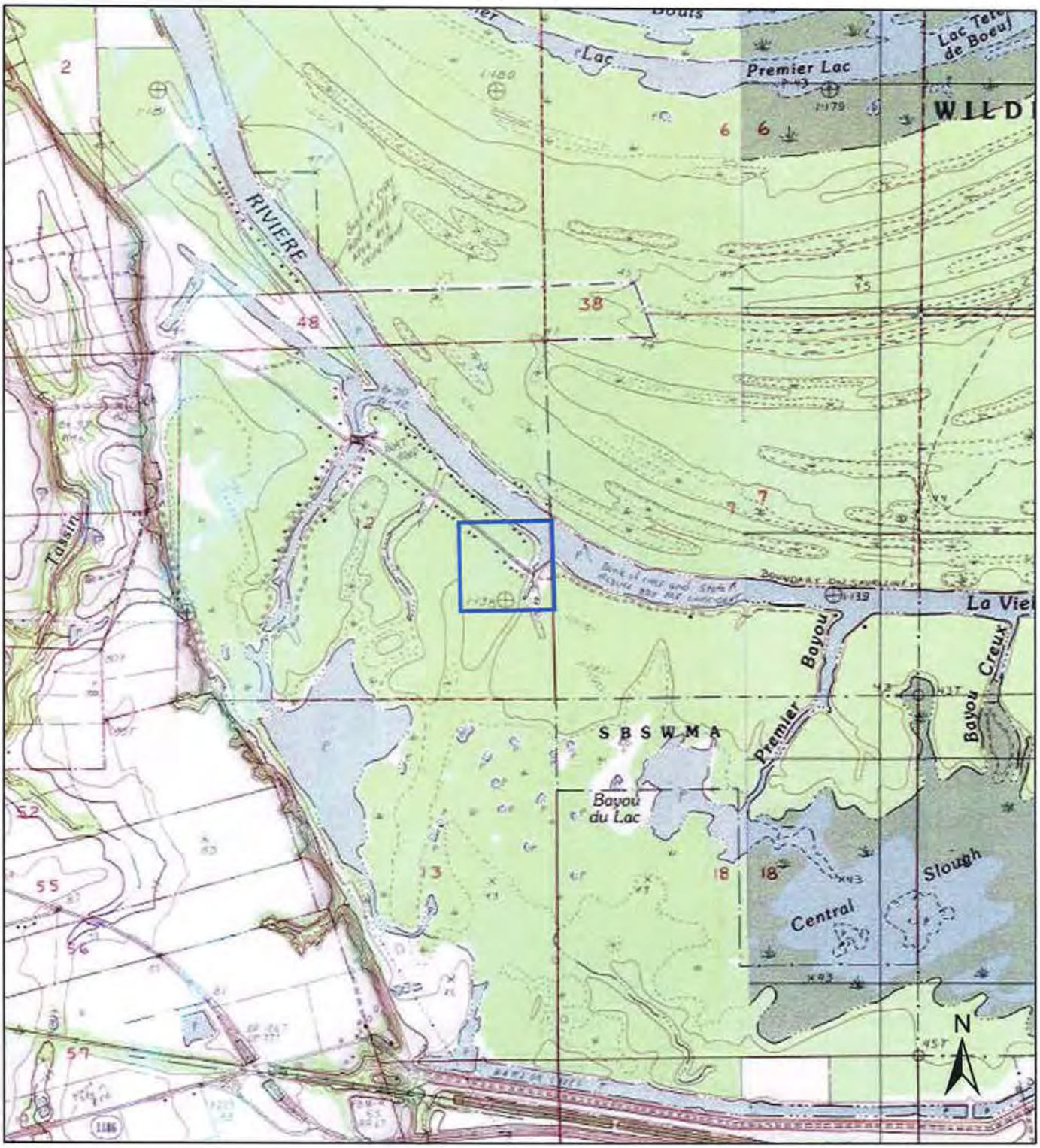
Sincerely,
Original Signed
Vicky Craft

Victoria Craft, Reality Specialist
Acting for Duane Winters,
Assistant Field Manager
Division of Lands and Renewable Resources

Enclosure
1 Map

bc:
JFO CF & RF
ES RF
DWinters
AMcCartney
ES020: JMSullivan:04/04/13:601-977-5400:Avoyelles.T.1N.R.4E.Sec.10.EOI 1725.SHPO.Ltr

Proposed Federal Oil and Gas Lease
EOI 1725



2,000 1,000 0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 10,000 Feet

Proposed Lease Area

Proposed lease area
Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana Meridian
T. 1N., R. 4E., Sec.12, NE1/4SE1/4
37 acres.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Southeastern States Field Office
Jackson, Mississippi

This map contains portions of the following USGS 1:24,000 Topographic Ouadrangles: Marksville South, Moreauville

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United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Southeastern States Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
http://www.es.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:
8100 (020) JMS Avoyelles Parishes, LA EOI 1725

April 08, 2013

Chairman Earl Barbry, Sr.
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 332
Marksville, Louisiana 70523

Dear Chairman Barbry:

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Avoyelles Parish (Marksville South and Moreauville Quadrangles)
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A review of the Louisiana Division of Archaeology online site files shows no sites within the lease sale area although there are some sites within one mile of the proposed lease area. A section of the lease document will state that before the BLM approves any development proposal, a survey that meets current professional standards and a report that meets Louisiana Division of Archaeology requirements will be required on a site-specific basis. A report of survey results must be approved by both the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the BLM

before any ground disturbing activities take place. In addition, if a development proposal, Notice of Staking (NOS) or Application for Permit to Drill (APD) is submitted, a stipulation will be included which covers accidental discovery and requires additional consultation with both your office and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology. Any needed consultation will be concluded before ground-disturbing activities begin.

Also, the BLM is unaware of those sites which you would consider as sacred sites, or other sites which you may consider important to the tribe. If you are aware of any sites which are currently being used for religious purposes or are recognized as such on these privately owned lands, please let us know. Any confidential information that you disclose will continue to be kept confidential and, if necessary, additional consultation will occur before approval of this action

Your information is requested within 30 days. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the BLM's processes or procedures concerning its consideration of cultural resources for this undertaking, please contact John M. Sullivan, Archaeologist, at (601) 977-5400 or email at John_M_Sullivan@BLM.Gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed
Bruce Dawson

Bruce Dawson,
Field Manager

Enclosure
1 Map

cc via email: Mr. Earl Barbry, Jr., Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

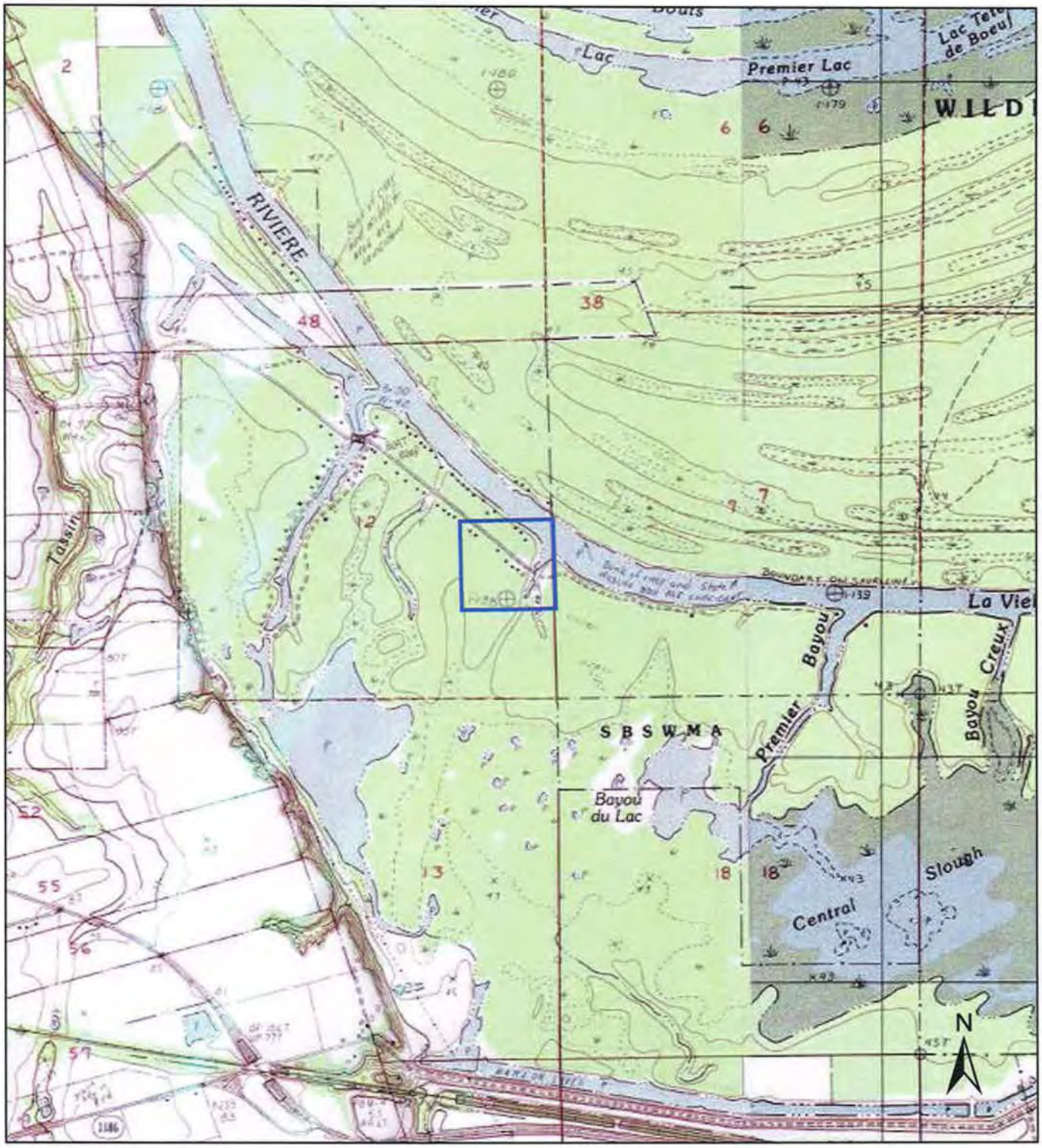
Same letter sent as an original w/ a cc via email: to the attached list.

bc:
JFO CF & RF
ES RF
DWinters
AMcCartney
ES020: JMSullivan:04/04/13:601-977-5400:Avoyelles.T.1N.R.4E.Sec.10.EOI 1725.NA.Ltr

Original to:	**cc: to these:**
Mr. Earl Barbry, Sr., Chairman Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 331 Marksville, Louisiana 70523	Mr. Earl Barbry, Jr., Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Tunica - Biloxi Tribe 151 Melacon Dr. Marksville, LA 71351 earlii@tunica.org
Kevin Sickey, Chairman Coushatta Indian Tribe P.O. Box 818 Elton, LA 70532	Send Hard Copy to Mike Tarpley Linda Langley, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Mike Tarpley, Deputy THPO P.O. Box 818 Elton, LA 70532 llangley@mcneese.edu kokua.aina57@gmail.com
John Paul Darden, Chairman Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 661 Charenton, LA 70523	Kimberly S. Walden, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 661 Charenton, LA 70523 kim@chitimacha.gov
James E. Billie, Chairman 6300 Stirling Road Hollywood, Florida 33024	Dr. Paul N. Backhouse, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Bradley M. Mueller, Compliance Review Supervisor 34725 W. Boundary Road Clewiston, FL 33440 paulbackhouse@semtribe.com; bradleymueller@semtribe.com; Elliottyork@semtribe.com; AlisonSwing@semtribe.com (863) 983-6549 (863) 983-6549 ext. 12262
Leonard Harjo, Principal Chief Seminole Nation of Oklahoma P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, Oklahoma 74884	Natalie Harjo, Cultural Preservation Office P.O. Box 1768 Seminole, OK 74868-1768 ndeere@sno-nsn.gov
Only send email to Preservation Officer Colabe III Clem Sylestine, Second Chief Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas 571 State Park Road 56 Livingston, TX 77351	Bryant J. Celestine, Historical Preservation Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas 571 State Park Road 56 Livingston, TX 77351 celestine.bryant@actribe.org

Original to:	**cc: to these:**
Only send email to Preservation Officer Tarpie Yargee, Chief Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town P.O. Box 187 Wetumka, OK 74883	Augustine Asbury, 2nd Chief/ Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Officer P.O. Box 187 Wetumka, OK 74883 aqttcultural@yahoo.com
Only send email to Preservation Officer Gregory Pyle, Chief Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Drawer 1210 Durant, Oklahoma 74702-1210	Ian Thompson PhD, RPA, THPO, Tribal Archaeologist, Director Historic Preservation Dept. Johnnie L. Jacobs, Section 106 Coordinator 580-775-0914, 580-920-3181 (Fax) 1-800-522-6170 ext. 2216 P.O. Drawer 1210 Durant, OK 74702 ithompson@choctawnation.com; jjacobs@choctawnation.com
Phyliss J. Anderson, Chief Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians P.O. Box 6010 Philadelphia, MS 39350	Mr. Ken Carleton, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians P.O. Box 6257 Philadelphia, MS 39350 kcarleton@choctaw.org
B. Cheryl Smith, Chief Jena Band of Choctaw P.O. Box 2717 Jena LA 71342	Dana Masters, Tribal Council and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Jena Band of Choctaw P.O. Box 2717 Jena LA 71342 jbc.thpo106@aol.com; danammasters@aol.com

Proposed Federal Oil and Gas Lease
EOI 1725



2,000 1,000 0 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 10,000 Feet

Proposed Lease Area

Proposed lease area
Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana Meridian
T. 1N., R. 4E., Sec.12, NE1/4SE1/4
37 acres.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Southeastern States Field Office
Jackson, Mississippi

This map contains portions of the following USGS 1:24,000 Topographic Ouadrangles: Marksville South, Moreauville

No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of this data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.

United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Southeastern States Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
http://www.es.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:
8100 (020) JMS Rapides Parishes, LA EOI 1726

Feb. 21, 2013

Ms. Pam Breaux
State Historic Preservation Officer
Louisiana Office of Cultural Development
P.O. Box 44247
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-44247

Dear Ms. Breaux:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received an Expression of Interest (EOI 1726) to lease federal minerals under privately owned surface, i.e. split-estate minerals. The Bureau's reasonably foreseeable development scenario (RFD) for this proposed lease is 4 wells from 1 pad to be constructed on private surface with no more than 12.86 acres total, this includes access road, pipelines and pad, to be disturbed accessing federal minerals. The legal locations of the approximately 12.72 acres of federal mineral tracts are as follows (map enclosed):

Louisiana Meridian
Avoyelles Parish (Effie and Buckeye Quadrangles)
T. 3 N., R. 3 E., Sec. 10, Lot 3 - 0.06 acres
Sec. 14, Lot 3 - 0.88 acres
Sec. 32, Lot 7 - 7.08 acres
Sec. 62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44 acres
Sec. 64, All (fractional - 1.36 acres (Approx. 12.72 ac.)

Development locations have not been determined on a site-specific basis. Specific locations proposed for development are determined by the developer and surface owners. The BLM's surface responsibilities rest only within the boundaries of any proposed development.

A review of the Louisiana Division of Archaeology online site files shows no sites within the lease sale area although there are some sites within one mile of the proposed lease area. An archaeological survey will be required before any development and or ground disturbing activities begin. Also the report must be approved by both the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the BLM before any ground disturbing activities take place. Any needed consultation will be concluded before ground-disturbing activities begin.

Your concurrence of these procedures for Section 106 compliance is requested in 30 days. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact John M. Sullivan, Archeologist, at (601) 977-5439 or email at John_M_Sullivan@BLM.Gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed
Duane Winters

Duane Winters,
Assistant Field Manager
Division of Lands and Renewable Resources

Enclosure
1 Map

bc:
JFO CF & RF
ES RF
DWinters
~~AMcCartney~~
ES020: JMSullivan:02/21/13:601-977-5400:Rapides.T.3N.R.3E.multipule Sec.EOI 1726.SHPO.Ltr

Proposed Federal Oil and Gas Lease
EOI 1726

2,000 1,000 0 2,000 4,000 Feet

Proposed Lease Area

Oil and Gas Wells

Dry Hole, Temporarily Abandoned

Proposed lease area
Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana Meridian
T. 3N., R. 3E.,
Sec.10, Lot 3 - 0.96 acres
Sec.14, Lot 3 - 0.88 acres
Sec.32, Lot 7 - 7.08 acres
Sec.62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44 acres)
Sec.64, All (fractional - 1.36 acres)
Total 12.72 acres.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Southeastern States Field Office
Jackson, Mississippi

This map contains portions of the following USGS 1:24,000 Topographic Ouadrangles: Effie, Buckeye

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United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Southeastern States Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
http://www.es.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:
8100 (020) JMS Avoyelles Parishes, LA EOI 1726

Feb. 21, 2013

Chairman Earl Barbry, Sr.
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
P.O. Box 332
Marksville, Louisiana 70523

Dear Chairman Barbry:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received an Expression of Interest (EOI 1726) to lease federal minerals under privately owned surface, i.e. split-estate minerals. The Bureau's reasonably foreseeable development scenario (RFD) for this proposed lease is 4 wells from 1 pad to be constructed on private surface with no more than 12.86 acres total, this includes access road, pipelines and pad, to be disturbed accessing federal minerals. The legal locations of the approximately 12.72 acres of federal mineral tracts are as follows (map enclosed):

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Avoyelles Parish (Effie and Buckeye Quadrangles)
T. 3 N., R. 3 E., Sec. 10, Lot 3 - 0.06 acres
Sec. 14, Lot 3 - 0.88 acres
Sec. 32, Lot 7 - 7.08 acres
Sec. 62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44 acres
Sec. 64, All (fractional - 1.36 acres (Approx. 12.72 ac.)

Development locations have not been determined on a site-specific basis. Specific locations proposed for development are determined by the developer and surface owners. The BLM's surface responsibilities rest only within the boundaries of any proposed development.

A review of the Louisiana Division of Archaeology online site files shows no sites within the lease sale area although there are some sites within one mile of the proposed lease area. An

archaeological survey will be required before any development and or ground disturbing activities begin. Also the report must be approved by both the Louisiana Division of Archaeology and the BLM before any ground disturbing activities take place. Any needed consultation will be concluded before ground-disturbing activities begin.

If you are aware of any sites or areas which are currently used for religious purposes or you recognize as sacred sites on these privately owned lands, please let us know so that impacts will not occur. As provided by law, these locations will be held in confidence.

Your information is requested within 30 days. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the BLM's processes or procedures concerning its consideration of cultural resources for this undertaking, please contact John M. Sullivan, Archaeologist, at (601) 977-5400 or email at John_M_Sullivan@BLM.Gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed
Bruce Dawson
Bruce Dawson,
Field Manager

Enclosure
1 Map

cc via email: Mr. Earl Barbry, Jr., Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Same letter sent as an original w/ a cc via email: to the attached list.

bc:
JFO CF & RF
ES RF
DWinters
~~AMcCartney~~
ES020: JMSullivan:02/21/13:601-977-5400:Avoyelles.T.3N.R.3E.multipule Sec.EOI 1726.NA.Ltr

Original to:	**cc: to these:**
Mr. Earl Barbry, Sr., Chairman Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 331 Marksville, Louisiana 70523	Mr. Earl Barbry, Jr., Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Tunica - Biloxi Tribe 151 Melacon Dr. Marksville, LA 71351 earlii@tunica.org
Kevin Sickey, Chairman Coushatta Indian Tribe P.O. Box 818 Elton, LA 70532	Send Hard Copy to Mike Tarpley Linda Langley, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Mike Tarpley, Deputy THPO P.O. Box 818 Elton, LA 70532 llangley@mcneese.edu kokua.aina57@gmail.com
John Paul Darden, Chairman Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 661 Charenton, LA 70523	Kimberly S. Walden, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana P.O. Box 661 Charenton, LA 70523 kim@chitimacha.gov
James E. Billie, Chairman 6300 Stirling Road Hollywood, Florida 33024	Dr. Paul N. Backhouse, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Anne Mullins, Deputy THPO 34725 W. Boundary Road Clewiston, FL 33440 paulbackhouse@semtribe.com; annemullins@semtribe.com (863) 983-6549 (863) 983-6549 ext. 12262
Leonard Harjo, Principal Chief Seminole Nation of Oklahoma P.O. Box 1498 Wewoka, Oklahoma 74884	Natalie Deer, Cultural Preservation Office P.O. Box 1768 Seminole, OK 74868-1768 ndeere@seminolenation.com
Only send email to Preservation Officer Colabe III Clem Sylestine, Second Chief Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas 571 State Park Road 56 Livingston, TX 77351	Bryant J. Celestine, Historical Preservation Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas 571 State Park Road 56 Livingston, TX 77351 celestine.bryant@actribe.org

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Only send email to Preservation Officer Tarpie Yargee, Chief Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town P.O. Box 187 Wetumka, OK 74883	Augustine Asbury, 2nd Chief/ Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Officer P.O. Box 187 Wetumka, OK 74883 aqttcultural@yahoo.com
Only send email to Preservation Officer Gregory Pyle, Chief Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Drawer 1210 Durant, Oklahoma 74702-1210	Ian Thompson PhD, RPA, THPO, Tribal Archaeologist, Director Historic Preservation Dept. Johnnie L. Jacobs, Section 106 Coordinator 580-775-0914, 580-920-3181 (Fax) 1-800-522-6170 ext. 2216 P.O. Drawer 1210 Durant, OK 74702 ithompson@choctawnation.com; jjacobs@choctawnation.com
Phyliss J. Anderson, Chief Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians P.O. Box 6010 Philadelphia, MS 39350	Mr. Ken Carleton, Cultural/Historic Preservation Office Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians P.O. Box 6257 Philadelphia, MS 39350 kcarleton@choctaw.org
B. Cheryl Smith, Chief Jena Band of Choctaw P.O. Box 2717 Jena LA 71342	Dana Masters, Tribal Council and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Jena Band of Choctaw P.O. Box 2717 Jena LA 71342 danammasters@aol.com

Proposed Federal Oil and Gas Lease
EOI 1726

2,000 1,000 0 2,000 4,000 Feet

Proposed Lease Area

Oil and Gas Wells

Dry Hole, Temporarily Abandoned

Proposed lease area
Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Louisiana Meridian
T. 3N., R. 3E.,
Sec.10, Lot 3 - 0.96 acres
Sec.14, Lot 3 - 0.88 acres
Sec.32, Lot 7 - 7.08 acres
Sec.62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44 acres)
Sec.64, All (fractional - 1.36 acres)
Total 12.72 acres.

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States
Southeastern States Field Office
Jackson, Mississippi

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Appendix D

Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario

REASONABLY FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

Case File Number: EOI 1724

Project Number:

Acres: 79.84

Location: Louisiana Meridian, Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, S2SW, Sec. 28, T2N, R3E

I. Reasonably Foreseeable Development

A. RFD Baseline Scenario Assumptions and Discussion

Objective horizons are Austin Chalk and Tuscaloosa Marine Shale. Commodity is crude oil and associated natural gas.

Federal acreage with be incorporated into a state determined drilling unit. Drilling and production units are 1280 acres. Project 4 wells drilled from 1 pad.

A 30' wide well access road will be constructed consisting of a 16' wide travel surface with a 7' buffer on each side.

If productive, multiple wells may be drilled from the existing pad.

If productive, oil and gas handling and production facilities will be constructed on the existing pad.

If productive, the reserve pit and part of the drill pad will be reclaimed when drilling and completion activities are concluded.

All disturbed acreage will be reclaimed if the well is non-productive.

B. Surface Disturbance Due to Oil and Gas Activity

Access Road: 0.69 acres (1000'X30')

Well Pad & Pit: 5.74 acres (500'X500')

Utility and/or Pipeline R.O.W: 0 – Use access road ROW

Initial Disturbance: 6.43 acres

Partial Reclamation of Drill Site: 0.34 acres

Net Disturbance for Productive Well: 6.09 acres

REASONABLY FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

Case File Number: EOI 1725

Project Number:

Acres: 40 (37)

Location: Louisiana Meridian, Avoyelles Parish, T1N-R4E, Sec. 12, NESE,

I. Reasonably Foreseeable Development

A. RFD Baseline Scenario Assumptions and Discussion

Objective horizon is Tuscaloosa Marine Shale. Commodity is oil and natural gas.

Federal acreage with be incorporated into a state determined drilling unit. Drilling and production units are 1280 acres. Project multiple wells drilled from 1 pad.

A 30' wide well access road will be constructed consisting of a 16' wide travel surface with a 7' buffer on each side.

If productive, multiple wells may be drilled from the existing pad.

If productive, oil and gas handling and production facilities will be constructed on the existing pad.

If productive, the reserve pit and part of the drill pad will be reclaimed when drilling and completion activities are concluded.

All disturbed acreage will be reclaimed if the well is non-productive.

B. Surface Disturbance Due to Oil and Gas Activity

Access Road: 0.69 acres (1000'X30')

Well Pad & Pit: 6.03 acres (525'X500')

Utility and/or Pipeline R.O.W: 0 – Use access road ROW

Initial Disturbance: 6.99 acres

Partial Reclamation of Drill Site: 0.34 acres

Net Disturbance for Productive Wells: 6.65 acres

REASONABLY FORESEEABLE DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

Case File Number: EOI 1726

Project Number:

Acres: 12.72

Location: Louisiana Meridian, Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana, Sec. 10, Lot 3, Sec. 14 Lot 3, Sec. 32 Lot 7, Fractional Sections 62 & 64, T3N, R3E

I. Reasonably Foreseeable Development

A. RFD Baseline Scenario Assumptions and Discussion

Objective horizons are Austin Chalk and Tuscaloosa Marine Shale. Commodity is crude oil and associated natural gas.

Federal acreage with be incorporated into a state determined drilling unit. Drilling and production units are 1280 acres. Project 8 wells drilled from 2 pads.

A 30' wide well access road will be constructed consisting of a 16' wide travel surface with a 7' buffer on each side.

If productive, multiple wells may be drilled from the existing pad.

If productive, oil and gas handling and production facilities will be constructed on the existing pad.

If productive, the reserve pit and part of the drill pad will be reclaimed when drilling and completion activities are concluded.

All disturbed acreage will be reclaimed if the well is non-productive.

B. Surface Disturbance Due to Oil and Gas Activity

Access Road: 1.38 acres (2000'X30')

Well Pad & Pit: 11.48 acres (500'X500')

Utility and/or Pipeline R.O.W: 0 – Use access road ROW

Initial Disturbance: 12.86 acres

Partial Reclamation of Drill Site: 0.68 acres

Net Disturbance for Productive Well: 12.17 acres

APPENDIX E

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE
THE SHREVEPORT TIMES

The Bureau of Land Management, Southeastern States Field Office will prepare an environmental assessment document to consider leasing federally owned mineral estate for oil and gas exploration and development.

The locations of the tracts are as follows:

LA, Avoyelles Parish, T2N, R3E, Sec. 28, S/2SW/4 (79.84 acres) (EOI #1724), LA, Avoyelles Parish, T1N, R4E, Sec. 12, NESE (37 acres) (EOI #1725), LA, Avoyelles Parish, T3N, R3E, Sec. 10, Lot 3 (0.96 acres), Sec. 14, Lot 3 (0.88 acres), Sec. 32, Lot 7 (7.08 acres), Sec. 62, All (fractional, north of the red river - 2.44 acres), Sec. 64, All (fractional 1.36 acres) (12.72 total acres) (EOI #1726), and LA, Sabine Parish, T8N, R12W, Sec. 12, Lot 4 (3 acres) (EOI #1736). All parcels are located in Louisiana Meridian, Louisiana.

The analysis will be prepared by an interdisciplinary team. An issue to be addressed by the team is to identify environmental impacts, and what restrictions may be necessary to avoid or mitigate identified impacts. The public is invited to participate by submitting comments on environmental issues with land use or by submitting other issues for consideration with the land use. Comments will be accepted through July 9, 2013. Send comments to Bureau of Land Management, Southeastern States Field Office, 411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404, Jackson, MS 39206.

For further information contact Alison McCartney with the Southeastern States Field Office at (601) 977-5407.

Bruce E. Dawson
Field Manager

The Times
June 9, 2013

The Times

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF CADDO

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally came and appeared

Connie Vinson-Carey, personally known to me
Who being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Assistant to the Classified Advertising Manager of The Times, and that the attached Advertisement published entitled:

LEGAL NOTICE
THE SHREVEPORT TIMES

The Bureau of Land Management, Southeastern States Field Office will prepare an environmental assessment document to consider leasing federally owned mineral estate for oil and gas exploration and development.

Notice published in the Times on June 9, 2013

June 10, 2013

(Signed) Connie Vinson-Carey

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of June, 2013.

Diana W. Barber

(Notary)

RECEIVED

JUN 13 2013

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
SSFO

DIANA WOODARD BARBER
NOTARY PUBLIC
60491
CADDO PARISH LOUISIANA
MY COMMISSION IS FOR LIFE

GANNETT