

sperry-sun
DRILLING SERVICES

19 February, 1997

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011

Attn: Bill Radcliff

Re: Revision to Notification of Source Abandonment
USNRC License # 42-26844-01 letter dated 27 January, 1997

Dear Sir:

This letter comprises the required 30 day notification of source abandonment as per 10CFR 39.77(d) as a follow-up to the telephone conversation with your office on 23 December, 1996.

Date of Occurrence: 23 December, 1996

Source(s) Abandoned: One (1) 3.0 Ci. Am-241 Be doubly encapsulated
radioactive source, Solid, Special Form. GNI Model 71-
1. Source Serial Number 71-1-002C.

One (1) 2.0 Ci. Cs-137 doubly encapsulated radioactive
source, Solid, Special Form. Amersham Model
CDC.CY13. Source Serial Number 1921GW.

Sources were held in a source housing, screwed in and
locked in place, into the sidewall of a heavy pipe wall
Measurement While Drilling logging tool.

Company Name, Surface ORYX
Location and Well OCS-G-13808 Well# B-16 ST# 2
Identification: High Island Block A-379

Casing Depth: Casing set to 4,039 ft. MD (3,312 ft. TVD)

IF 72 1/0

9702260422 970219
PDR ADOCK 03029470
C PDR

Notification of Source Abandonment

19 February, 1997

Page 2 of 4

Depth of the Cement Abandonment Plug(s):	6,628 ft. MD to 6,928 ft. MD
Kick-off and Sidetrack Depth after Abandonment:	5,163 ft. MD
Depth to Top of the Fish: (Top of Abandoned Drillstring)	6,928 ft. MD (5,371 ft. TVD)
Length of Abandoned Drillstring Located above Abandoned Sources:	383 ft.
Depth of Sources:	The 3.0 Ci. Am-241 Be source is located at 7,311 ft. MD (5,692 ft. TVD). The 2.0 Ci. Cs-137 source is located at 7,321 ft. MD (5,702 ft. TVD).
Bit Depth:	7,362 ft. MD (5,735 ft. TVD)
Depth to Bottom of Well:	7,858 ft. MD (6,149 ft. TVD)
Description of Recovery Attempts:	<p>On 16 December, 1996 at 0500 hrs. the drillstring started pulling tight during a 6 stand short trip. Jarring on the drillstring began at 0530hrs.</p> <p>On 17 December, 1996 58 BBLS of Coastal Spot spotting fluid was pumped and jarring continued in an attempt to free the drillstring. A freepoint was run and indicated that the drillstring was stuck below drilling jars.</p> <p>On 18 December, 1996 a backoff was performed 1 joint of Heavy Weight Drill Pipe below the drilling jars. The backoff was successfully performed at 6,663 ft. MD. The free drillstring was pulled out of hole and a BHA was made up to open the hole up.</p> <p>On 19 December, 1996 a washpipe assembly was tripped in the hole to wash over the fish.</p> <p>On 20 December, 1996 the washpipe was pulled out of</p>

Notification of Source Abandonment

19 February, 1997

Page 3 of 4

the hole after reaching a depth of 6,962 ft. MD. A stinger and fishing jar bottom hole assembly was run in the hole and screwed into the top of the fish. A successful back off was completed at 6,932 ft. MD.

On 21 December, 1996 the backed off fish was pulled out of the hole. The washpipe assembly was run in the hole to start the second washover which ended at a depth of 7,245 ft. MD.

On 22 December, 1996 a fishing assembly with jars was tripped into the hole. This fishing attempt resulted in two stands of heavy weight drillpipe being retrieved. The fishing assembly with jars was tripped in the hole again.

On 23 December, 1996 the fishing assembly latched onto the fish. Fishing assembly becomes stuck above fishing Jars. A backoff was completed at 6,928 ft. MD.

At 0900 a decision was made by ORYX to propose plugging and abandoning the fish.. At 1125 hours on Monday 23 December, 1996 proposed abandonment procedures were discussed with Bill Radcliff of the Region IV office of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission by telephone conversation, approval granted for abandonment.

Results of Efforts to
Immobilize and Seal the
Source in Place:

On 23 **December**, 1996 at 1915 hours the radioactive sources and remaining BHA were immobilized by placement of a cement plug. Cement was set from 6,628 ft. MD to 6,928 ft. MD.

The well was side tracked at 5,163 ft. MD.

Warning Statement:

A warning plaque will be made and provided to ORYX for mounting on the wellhead. It will be possible to mount the plaque since there is a permanent structure available at this location. See attachment for Warning Statement plaque.

Notification of Source Abandonment

19 February, 1997

Page 4 of 4

Other Agencies Notified in
Writing:

Minerals Management Service (New Orleans District)
Texas Department of Health - Bureau of Radiation
Control
U.S. NRC Document Control Desk (Washington, D.C.)
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality -
Radiation Protection Division

Please call Richard Arsenault at (281) 871-4144 if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Richard L. Arsenault, CSP
Radiation Safety Director
Manager, Compliance Assurance/Worldwide
Sperry-Sun Drilling Services, Inc.

Attachments: Warning Statement
Record of Mounting Form

cc: C. Brown
R. Clark
M. Kohlhauff
G. Moore
J. Newman
NRC License File
TBRC License File
LDEQ License File