

**ACTION:** Notice of the Availability of Environmental Documents. Prepared for OCS Mineral Proposals on the Gulf of Mexico OCS.

**SUMMARY:** Minerals Management Service (MMS), in accordance with Federal Regulations that implement the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), announces the availability of NEPA-related Site-Specific Environmental Assessments (SEA) and Findings of No Significant Impact (FONSI), prepared by MMS for the following oil and gas activities proposed on the Gulf of Mexico OCS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Public Information Unit, Information Services Section at the number below.

Minerals Management Service, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, Attention: Public Information Office (MS 5034), 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, Room 114, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, or by calling 1-800-200-GULF.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** MMS prepares SEAs and FONSI for proposals that relate to exploration for and the development/production of oil and gas resources on the Gulf of Mexico OCS. These SEAs examine the potential environmental effects of activities described in the proposals and present MMS conclusions regarding the significance of those effects.

Environmental Assessments are used as a basis for determining whether or not approval of the proposals constitutes

major Federal actions that significantly affect the quality of the human environment in the sense of NEPA Section 102(2)(C). A FONSI is prepared in those instances where MMS finds that approval will not result in significant effects on the quality of the human environment. The FONSI briefly presents the basis for that finding and includes a summary or copy of the SEA.

This notice constitutes the public notice of availability of environmental documents required under the NEPA Regulations.

This listing includes all proposals for which the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region prepared a FONSI in the period subsequent to publication of the preceding notice.

| Activity/operator                                                                                                    | Location                                                                                              | Date       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Forest Oil Corporation, Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-161                                                           | Eugene Island, Block 314, Lease OCS-G 01981, located 70 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.   | 11/29/2005 |
| Southern Natural Gas Company, Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-160.                                                    | Main Pass, Block 298, Lease OCS-G 01906, located 18 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.       | 12/1/2005  |
| Energy Resource Technology, Inc., Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-162.                                                | East Cameron, Block 38, Lease OCS-G 02562, located 8 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.      | 12/5/2005  |
| Apache Corporation, Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-156 ....                                                          | Main Pass, Block 312, Lease OCS-G 16520, located 15 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.       | 12/5/2005  |
| Northern Natural Gas Company, Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-155.                                                    | Matagorda Island, Block 686, Lease OCS-G 04625, located 18 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.    | 12/14/2005 |
| Walter Oil & Gas Corporation, Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-153.                                                    | Grand Isle, Block 104, Lease OCS-G 14560, located 48 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.      | 12/16/2005 |
| El Paso Production Oil & Gas Company, Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-157.                                            | Vermilion, Block 102, Lease OCS-G 03393, located 30 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.       | 12/16/2005 |
| Nippon Oil Exploration U.S.A. Limited, Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-163.                                           | High Island, Block 140, Lease OCS 00518, located 20 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.           | 12/19/2005 |
| Walter Oil & Gas Corporation, Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-165.                                                    | High Island, Block 200, Lease OCS-G 09086, located 30 miles from the nearest Texas shoreline.         | 12/19/2005 |
| Millennium Offshore Group, Inc., Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-158.                                                 | East Cameron, Block 192, Lease OCS-G 08650, located 70 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.    | 12/21/2005 |
| Apache Corporation, Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-159 ....                                                          | South Timbalier, Block 161, Lease OCS-G 01248, located 32 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline. | 12/21/2005 |
| Marlin Energy Offshore, L.L.C., Structure Removal SEA ES/SR 05-142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, and 151. | South Timbalier, Block 21, Lease OCS-G 00263, located 4 miles from the nearest Louisiana shoreline.   | 12/29/2005 |

Persons interested in reviewing environmental documents for the proposals listed above or obtaining information about SEAs and FONSI prepared for activities on the Gulf of Mexico OCS are encouraged to contact MMS at the address or telephone listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** section.

Dated: January 18, 2006.

**Chris C. Oynes,**

*Regional Director, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region.*  
[FR Doc. E6-2555 Filed 2-22-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-MR-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### National Park Service

#### Notice of Inventory Completion: David Phelps Archaeology Laboratory of East Carolina University, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3003, of the completion of an inventory of human remains and associated funerary objects in the possession of the David Phelps Archaeology Laboratory of East Carolina University, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC. The human remains and associated funerary objects were

removed from Bertie, Greene, Hertford, and Martin Counties, NC.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003(d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of the Native American human remains and associated funerary objects. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

A detailed assessment of the human remains was made by professional staff of the David Phelps Archaeology Laboratory of East Carolina University in consultation with representatives of the Tuscarora Nation of New York.

In 1971 and 1978, human remains representing a minimum of 20 individuals were removed from the

Jordan's Landing site (31 BR7), Bertie County, NC, during excavations conducted by East Carolina University professional staff and supervised field school students. No known individuals were identified. The 4,436 associated funerary objects are identified as 17 faunal bones, 8 triangular chipped stone projectile points, 1 hammerstone, 1 shell dipper, 4,288 marginella beads, 29 columnella shell beads, 86 shell disc beads, 1 shell pendent, a deposit of red ochre, 1 ceramic shred, and 2 bone pins.

Based on the types of associated funerary objects, the human remains have been determined to be Native American. Based on geographic placement and later historic documentation, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the human remains are culturally affiliated with the Tuscarora Nation of New York.

In 1971, human remains representing a minimum of one individual were removed from site 31MT16, Martin County, NC, during a cultural resource management survey conducted by East Carolina University professional staff. The human remains were highly fragmented in a midden deposit and commingled with faunal remains. No known individual was identified. No associated funerary objects were present.

Based on archaeological evidence, the human remains have been determined to be Native American. Based on geographic placement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the human remains are culturally affiliated with the Tuscarora Nation of New York.

In 1972, human remains representing a minimum of 20 individuals were removed from the San Souci East site (31 BR5), Bertie County, NC, by an artifact collector and turned over to the East Carolina University archeology lab. The human remains were highly fragmented and scattered. No known individuals were identified. The 388 associated funerary objects are identified as 3 faunal bones (2 deer antler dog/canine skull), 373 marginella beads, 4 bone pins, 2 bone awls, 4 bone pendants, and 2 bone needles.

Based on the types of associated funerary objects, the human remains have been determined to be Native American. Based on the archeological evidence, the San Souci East site has been identified as a Late Prehistoric period occupation (A.D. 800–1650) (Ward & Davis, "Time Before History: The Archaeology of North Carolina"). Based on geographic placement and later historic documentation, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the human remains and cultural items are

culturally affiliated with the Tuscarora Nation of New York.

In 1983, highly fragmented human remains representing a minimum of one individual were removed from site 31HF30 in Hertford County, NC, by East Carolina University professional staff. No known individual was identified. No associated funerary objects were present.

Based on archeological evidence, the human remains have been determined to be Native American. Based on geographic placement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the human remains are culturally affiliated with the Tuscarora Nation of New York.

In January 1990, human remains representing a minimum of seven individuals were removed from Fort Neoheroke (31GR4) in Greene County, NC, during excavations conducted by East Carolina University professional staff and supervised field school students. No known individuals were identified. No associated funerary objects were present.

Based on archeological evidence and historical documentation, the human remains have been determined to be Native American. Based on geographic placement and historical documentation, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the human remains and associated funerary items are culturally affiliated with the Tuscarora Nation of New York.

In 1992, highly fragmented human remains representing a minimum of 20 individuals were removed from the Kearney site (31GR84) in Greene County, NC, by East Carolina University professional staff and a local artifact collector. No known individuals were identified. No associated funerary objects were present.

Based on archeological evidence, the human remains have been determined to be Native American. Based on geographic placement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the human remains and associated funerary items are culturally affiliated with the Tuscarora Nation of New York.

Archeologists have long considered the North Carolina Coastal Plain to be comprised of distinct cultural and archeological areas. These areas generally are seen to coincide with tribal and linguistic groupings recognized by anthropologists who have studied the ethnographic records. The Coastal Plain can be divided into northern and southern regions. The northern region extends from the Neuse River basin to the Virginia state line and encompasses the area occupied by Algonkian- and Iroquoisan-speaking groups at the time of the arrival of the

first English colonists. The Algonkians lived in the eastern Tidewater zone of the northern coast, whereas the Iroquois, represented by the Tuscaroras, occupied the interior coastal plain. The interior coastal plain region has been chronologically divided into two phases, which are the Mount Pleasant phase (500 B.C.–A.D. 800) and the Cashie phase (A.D. 800–A.D. 1715) (Ward & Davis). Based on the archeological evidence, the sites described above have been identified as a Middle (Mount Pleasant phase) to Late (Cashie phase) Woodland Period occupation. The Tuscaroras occupied this area from at least the Mount Pleasant phase until historical times. Descendants of the Tuscaroras are members of the Tuscarora Nation of New York.

Officials of the Phelps Archaeology Laboratory at East Carolina University have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (9–10), the human remains described above represent the physical remains of at least 70 individuals of Native American ancestry. Officials of the Phelps Archaeology Laboratory at East Carolina University also have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(3)(A), the 4,824 objects described above are reasonably believed to have been placed with or near individual human remains at the time of death or later as part of the death rate or ceremony. Lastly, officials of the Phelps Archaeology Laboratory at East Carolina University have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the Native American human remains and associated fragmented objects of the Tuscarora Nation of New York.

Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with the human remains and/or associated funerary objects should contact Dr. Charles R. Ewen, Director, Archaeology Laboratories, Department of Anthropology, East Carolina University, telephone (252) 328–9454, before March 27, 2006. Repatriation of the human remains and associated funerary objects to the Tuscarora Nation of New York may proceed after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

The Phelps Archaeology Laboratory of East Carolina University is responsible for notifying the Tuscarora Nation of New York that this notice has been published.

Dated: February 9, 2006.

**Sherry Hutt,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

[FR Doc. 06-1628 Filed 2-22-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4312-50-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### Quarterly Status Report of Water Service, Repayment, and Other Water-Related Contract Negotiations

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of contractual actions that have been proposed to the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and were pending through December 31, 2005, and contract actions that have been completed or discontinued since the last publication of this notice on November 2, 2005. From the date of this publication, future quarterly notices during this calendar year will be limited to new, modified, discontinued, or completed contract actions. This annual notice should be used as a point of reference to identify changes in future notices. This notice is one of a variety of means used to inform the public about proposed contractual actions for capital recovery and management of project resources and facilities consistent with section 9(f) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939. Additional announcements of individual contract actions may be published in the **Federal Register** and in newspapers of general circulation in the areas determined by Reclamation to be affected by the proposed action.

**ADDRESSES:** The identity of the approving officer and other information pertaining to a specific contract proposal may be obtained by calling or writing the appropriate regional office at the address and telephone number given for each region in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sandra L. Simons, Manager, Contract Services Office, Bureau of Reclamation, P.O. Box 25007, Denver, Colorado 80225-0007; telephone 303-445-2902.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Consistent with section 9(f) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 and the rules and regulations published in 52 FR 11954, April 13, 1987 (43 CFR 426.22), Reclamation will publish notice of proposed or amendatory contract actions for any contract for the delivery of project water for authorized uses in

newspapers of general circulation in the affected area at least 60 days prior to contract execution. Announcements may be in the form of news releases, legal notices, official letters, memorandums, or other forms of written material. Meetings, workshops, and/or hearings may also be used, as appropriate, to provide local publicity. The public participation procedures do not apply to proposed contracts for the sale of surplus or interim irrigation water for a term of 1 year or less. Either of the contracting parties may invite the public to observe contract proceedings. All public participation procedures will be coordinated with those involved in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act. Pursuant to the "Final Revised Public Participation Procedures" for water resource-related contract negotiations, published in 47 FR 7763, February 22, 1982, a tabulation is provided of all proposed contractual actions in each of the five Reclamation regions. When contract negotiations are completed, and prior to execution, each proposed contract form must be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, or pursuant to delegated or redelegated authority, the Commissioner of Reclamation or one of the regional directors. In some instances, congressional review and approval of a report, water rate, or other terms and conditions of the contract may be involved.

Public participation in and receipt of comments on contract proposals will be facilitated by adherence to the following procedures:

1. Only persons authorized to act on behalf of the contracting entities may negotiate the terms and conditions of a specific contract proposal.

2. Advance notice of meetings or hearings will be furnished to those parties that have made a timely written request for such notice to the appropriate regional or project office of Reclamation.

3. Written correspondence regarding proposed contracts may be made available to the general public pursuant to the terms and procedures of the Freedom of Information Act, as amended.

4. Written comments on a proposed contract or contract action must be submitted to the appropriate regional officials at the locations and within the time limits set forth in the advance public notices.

5. All written comments received and testimony presented at any public hearings will be reviewed and summarized by the appropriate regional office for use by the contract approving authority.

6. Copies of specific proposed contracts may be obtained from the appropriate regional director or his designated public contact as they become available for review and comment.

7. In the event modifications are made in the form of a proposed contract, the appropriate regional director shall determine whether republication of the notice and/or extension of the comment period is necessary.

Factors considered in making such a determination shall include, but are not limited to (i) the significance of the modification, and (ii) the degree of public interest which has been expressed over the course of the negotiations. At a minimum, the regional director shall furnish revised contracts to all parties who requested the contract in response to the initial public notice.

#### Definitions of Abbreviations Used in This Document

BCP—Boulder Canyon Project  
Reclamation—Bureau of Reclamation  
CAP—Central Arizona Project  
CVP—Central Valley Project  
CRSP—Colorado River Storage Project  
FR—Federal Register  
IDD—Irrigation and Drainage District  
ID—Irrigation District  
M&I—Municipal and Industrial  
NMISC—New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission  
O&M—Operation and Maintenance  
P—SMBP—Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program  
PPR—Present Perfected Right  
RRA—Reclamation Reform Act of 1982  
SOD—Safety of Dams  
SRPA—Small Reclamation Projects Act of 1956  
WD—Water District

Pacific Northwest Region: Bureau of Reclamation, 1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100, Boise, Idaho 83706-1234, telephone 208-378-5344.

1. Irrigation, M&I, and miscellaneous water users; Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Wyoming: Temporary or interim water service contracts for irrigation, M&I, or miscellaneous use to provide up to 10,000 acre-feet of water annually for terms up to 5 years; long-term contracts for similar service for up to 1,000 acre-feet of water annually.

2. Rogue River Basin Water Users, Rogue River Basin Project, Oregon: Water service contracts; \$8 per acre-foot per annum.

3. Willamette Basin Water Users, Willamette Basin Project, Oregon: Water service contracts; \$8 per acre-foot per annum.

4. Pioneer Ditch Company, Boise Project, Idaho; Clark and Edwards Canal