

NOTE: This disposition is nonprecedential.



United States Department of the Interior  
Office of Hearings and Appeals  
Interior Board of Land Appeals  
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February 4, 2016

IBLA 2015-240	)	OCS 0184 and OCS-G 13576
	)	
EC OFFSHORE PROPERTIES, INC.	)	Offshore Oil and Gas
	)	
	)	Suspension Lifted;
	)	Set Aside and Remanded

ORDER

On August 24, 2015, the Board received appellant's notice of appeal (NOA), and a petition to stay the effect of, a June 25, 2015, decision issued by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). In its decision, BSEE denied appellant's February 10, 2015, requests for suspensions of production (SOPs) for OCS Leases 0184 and OCS-G 13576, covering East Cameron Blocks 72 and 71, respectively. The agency determined that appellant did not demonstrate the requisite commitment to production - production on those leases ceased on August 20, 2014, and appellant had not shown that it could bring the leases back into production in a timely manner. For the reasons set for in a Board Order dated September 11, 2015, we denied appellant's petition for a stay.

On December 31, 2015, the Board suspended the matter from active consideration and tolled all filing deadlines in order to facilitate the parties' attempts to negotiate a settlement of the appeal in accordance with 30 C.F.R. § 290.6(b).

On January 13, 2016, counsel for BSEE filed a Motion to Lift Suspension of Proceedings and to Remand (Motion). Therein, counsel states that appellant has provided BSEE with additional information during the parties' negotiation period, and the information may support its requests for SOPs. In light of this information, BSEE seeks to revisit the decision on appeal so that it can make a decision regarding the SOPs based on the now-complete record. Counsel represents appellant does not object to the Motion.

Based on counsel's representations, the Motion is granted. See 43 C.F.R. § 4.407(c).

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to the Board of Land Appeals by the Secretary of the Interior, 43 C.F.R. § 4.1, BSEE's Motion to Lift Suspension of Proceedings and to Remand is granted, and the matter is set aside and remanded to the agency for further review.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Eileen G. Jones  
Chief Administrative Judge

I concur:

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
James F. Roberts  
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge