

NOTE: This disposition is nonprecedential.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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May 18, 2016

IBLA 2016-172	)	00424, <i>et al.</i>
	)	
FIELDWOOD ENERGY OFFSHORE LLC	)	Supplemental Bonding
	)	
	)	Motion to Withdraw Appeal Denied;
	)	Case Remanded <i>Sua Sponte</i> ;
	)	Appeal Dismissed

ORDER

Appellant has appealed from four separate March 17, 2016, Orders issued by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). BOEM required appellant to submit supplemental bonding to cover the obligatory costs of decommissioning and other activities associated with appellant's offshore oil and gas leases, rights of use, and easements situated off the coast of Louisiana. Since then, this matter has been temporarily suspended from the Board's active docket to facilitate the parties' settlement discussions.

Before the temporary suspension expired, appellant filed a Motion to Withdraw Appeal. Appellant seeks to withdraw its appeal because "BOEM has rescinded the Orders underlying this appeal."<sup>1</sup> The agency did not respond to appellant's Motion.<sup>2</sup>

Since jurisdiction over the appealed Orders still lies with the Board, BOEM has no authority to take any action concerning the Orders until the Board restores jurisdiction back to the agency.<sup>3</sup> We therefore deny Appellant's Motion because the Orders on appeal still remain in effect.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Motion at 1.

<sup>2</sup> See 43 C.F.R. § 4.407(b).

<sup>3</sup> See *PacifiCorp.*, 187 IBLA 245, 249 (2016).

<sup>4</sup> See 43 C.F.R. § 4.407(c).

BOEM's attempt to rescind its Orders at issue in this appeal makes it apparent that the agency no longer endorses its Orders and seeks to withdraw them. Therefore, we need not wait for the agency to file with the Board a motion for remand, but instead, remand *sua sponte* the matter back to BOEM for further action.

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to the Board of Land Appeals by the Secretary of the Interior,<sup>5</sup> we remand the matter back to the agency for further action and dismiss this appeal from our docket.

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

I concur:

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

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<sup>5</sup> 43 C.F.R. § 4.1.