



IN REPLY REFER TO:

## United States Department of the Interior

### MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Alaska Outer Continental Shelf Region

949 E. 36th Avenue, Room 603

Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4302

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COPY

JAN 24 1995

CERTIFIED MAIL--  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Enoch L. Dawkins  
President, Murphy Exploration  
and Production Company  
P.O. Box 61780  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70161-1780

D. B. Champlin  
Land Representative, Western Asset.  
P.O. Box 576  
Houston, Texas 77001

Gentlemen:

Your letter dated January 23, 1995, requested a suspension of lease operations pursuant to 30 CFR 250.10 for Lease OCS-Y 0181 in the Beaufort Sea. You requested a suspension period to coincide with the term of the Northstar Unit. On January 24, 1995, Minerals Management Service and the State of Alaska extended the term of the Northstar Unit until April 30, 1995.

Lease OCS-Y 0181 is committed to the Northstar Unit and a suspension consistent with the term of the unit is warranted and in the National interest. Accordingly, a 96 day suspension of operations for Lease OCS-Y 0181 is approved pursuant to 30 CFR 250.10. Termination of the Northstar Unit Agreement would result in termination of this suspension. The period of suspension will commence on January 25, 1995, and will terminate on April 30, 1995. The new termination date for Lease OCS-Y 0181 will be November 4, 1995, unless this suspension of operations is terminated at an earlier date pursuant to 30 CFR 250.10 (j) or unless the lease is otherwise extended by production, drilling, well workover operations, or further suspensions of production or operations.

We are notifying the Minerals Management Service Royalty Management Division of this action by copy of this letter. Please be advised that, in accordance with 30 CFR 218.154, the rental or minimum royalty payments on lease OCS-Y 0179 must continue to be made during the period of suspension. Any questions concerning the rentals or minimum royalty payments should be addressed to the Royalty Management Division at the following address:

Mr. Enoch L. Dawskins  
D. B. Champlin

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Associate Director for Royalty Management  
Minerals Management Service  
P.O. Box 25165  
Denver, Colorado 80225

If you have any questions regarding this decision, please contact me at (907) 271-6065.

Sincerely,

*Orig. Sgd. by*  
*Barry A. Boardman*

Regional Supervisor,  
Field Operations