



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SOUTHWEST REGION

P.O. BOX 728

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87504-0728



IN REPLY REFER TO:

L3025(SWR-PE)

DEC 14 1987

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Padre Island

From: Regional Director, Southwest Region

Subject: Plan of Operations for South Sprint Temporary Fieldwide Gas Unit, Amoco Production Company, Padre Island

On this date, I have signed the Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact covering the subject Plan of Operations.

The Oil and Gas Lease for Well No. 1, State Tract 980-S, located within the seashore, is not included in Appendix A. Please request it from Amoco and provide us with a copy for our files.

The Plan of Operations covers the continuing operation of Amoco's South Sprint Temporary Fieldwide Gas Unit comprising two producing wells (Wells No. 1 and 2), one non-producing well (Well No. 3), and a gas collection facility.

Please inform Amoco Production Company that it can continue operations as specified in its Plan of Operations. A reclamation bond, pursuant to limits set in 36 CFR 9.48 should be tendered to you prior to approval of the plan.

Should Amoco plan to convert Well No. 3 to a producing well and tie-in to the compressor/production facilities, an amendment to this plan will need to be submitted and approved prior to implementation, as will any other future changes.

Enclosure
(Signed Environmental Assessment/
Finding of No Significant Impact)

Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Southwest Region

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

PADRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE, TEXAS

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the National Park Service has prepared an Environmental Assessment on the following project:

Amoco Production Company
in
Padre Island National Seashore, Texas

The assessment process, based on the Plan of Operations for production of existing natural gas wells did not indicate a significant environmental impact from the proposed action; consequently, an environmental statement will not be required.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment is on file at the park and will be available for public review upon request.

Nov. 18, 1987
Date

M E Hancock
Superintendent

DEC 14 1987
Date

B E Cook
Regional Director, Southwest Region

SUMMARY

Amoco Production Company has submitted a Plan of Operations for production of existing natural gas wells in their South Sprint Field located in Kleberg County just west of the primary dune line near the 4-wheel drive sign in Padre Island National Seashore. The site is located at approximately Lat 27° 20' 20" N, Lo 97° 19' 50" W

The proposed project entails operating a surface location which collects natural gas from two producing wells, one located 9000' offshore outside the park and the other located onshore at the operations site. Access to the site is via park road 22, the Gulf beach, and finally a short access road.

The operation site is already in existence and the addition of the compressor will involve only slight site modification on already disturbed land. There will be only slight additional impact on the site environment, most of that being from the installation of a security fence. Once the operation ceases and restoration is completed, revegetation of the site should occur within two or three growing seasons.

This operation will not adversely effect any endangered species. No historical or archeological resources are located on the site. Operational activities should have no observable effect upon air quality. The compressor will be the only significant noise producer and it will be noticeable only in the immediate vicinity of the operation. These activities should have no additional adverse effect on wildlife and should have no effect on park visitation.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT/FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

AMOCO PRODUCTION COMPANY IN PADRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE, TEXAS

Introduction

Amoco Production Company has submitted a Plan of Operations to continue to collect natural gas from two wells, one 9000' offshore outside the park boundary and one onshore in Padre Island National Seashore. The Plan was accepted as complete by the park on November 18, 1987. The Plan of Operations consists of two submissions; the initial bound document received November 6, 1987 and an additional site map received November 12, 1987.

The Plan of Operations has been carefully reviewed by the park staff in order to assure protection of the natural environment by mitigating adverse impacts.

The Environment

A detailed, site specific description of the natural and cultural environment which is subjected to disturbance during this operation is presented in sections 3.5, 3.6 and 3.7 of the Plan of Operations. Padre Island National Seashore staff has conducted a follow-up field survey of the area and concluded that all presented information is accurate and complete.

Alternatives to Proposed Action

(5.1) Since the operation described has been in operation for many years there is not a "no action" alternative. The site was chosen and the operation established before 36 CFR 9B regulations were promulgated. The only new change is the installation of a compressor to increase production. This is on a previously disturbed area adjacent to the other site equipment and is in the only location that would not cause additional damage to the environment. The only other alternative that the park might consider would be to cease operations altogether. Since, according to the park's establishing legislation, production of natural gas must be allowed and since the company feels that production can be enhanced through the addition of the compressor such an alternative cannot be considered.

Summary of Environmental Impact of
Proposed Action and Mitigations

Impacts and mitigations have been adequately addressed in section 4. The staff concurs with the description of anticipated impacts and mitigations based upon previous experience with collection and transmission activities.

Conclusion

Based upon analysis of the proposed plan, it is determined that the environmental impact will not significantly alter the quality of the environment and an environmental impact statement will not be required.

