



IN REPLY REFER TO:

L3025

October 1, 1993

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Padre Island National Seashore
9405 South Padre Island Drive
Corpus Christi, Texas 78418



Ms. Leah Taylor
Amoco Production Company
P.O. Box 3092
Houston, TX 77253

Dear Ms. Taylor:

As previously agreed to, during our recent conference call, we have contacted both our Regional and Washington Office Minerals Management staff about Amoco's concerns regarding the shared access road issue. We also discussed Amoco's desire to obtain a hold harmless commitment from the National Park Service (NPS). A synopsis of the various discussion issues included the following:

1. Amoco currently utilizes an access road, to the South Sprint Gas Facility, that crosses NPS owned surface estate.
2. A proposed well by Bright and Company could utilize the existing road, thereby avoiding significant resource impacts.
3. Amoco wants a hold harmless commitment from the NPS for any environmental damage resulting from Bright and Company using that particular portion of the shared access road.

After lengthy discussion, the NPS has concluded that:

1. Amoco has no ownership rights to the access road. The use of the road is a privilege, rather than a right. Amoco is not in a legal position to deny access.
2. NPS can stipulate that Bright and Company use the existing road.
3. It is in both companies' best interest to negotiate a road use agreement. A hold harmless letter from the NPS to Amoco is not necessary or appropriate.

4. Amoco has expressed a concern about Bright and Company's financial status. The NPS is concerned about every company's financial status and inclination towards resource protection. This is the reason that NPS requires performance bonds for covering liability and reclamation.

5. In the event NPS is forced to utilize a company's performance bond, the company's operation is suspended until such time that a new bond is in place.

6. The shared access road is an issue that is negotiable between parties; however, resource protection takes priority.

7. A site assessment of the road, by both parties, prior to Bright and Company beginning operation would be in order.

We hope that these issues have been resolved to Amoco's satisfaction. If you would like to discuss any, or all, of these issue further, please contact Mr. Paul Eubank, Environmental Protection Specialist, at (512) 949-8173. As always, we appreciate the opportunity to work with Amoco Production Company.

Sincerely,


Charles R. Farabee
Superintendent

cc:
Mr. Clay Bright
Bright and Company
2911 Turtle Creek
Suite 700
Dallas, TX 75219

