



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
The Under Secretary of Commerce
for Oceans and Atmosphere
Washington, D.C. 20230

Mr. David L. Duplantier
Senior Counsel
ChevronTexaco
935 Gravier Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

JAN 03 2003

In re: Destin Dome 56 Unit Consistency Appeal

Dear Mr. Duplantier:

This letter responds to your request for a dismissal of an administrative appeal concerning the Destin Dome 56 Unit. An appeal notice for this unit was filed with the Secretary of Commerce by Chevron, on behalf of itself and partners, (Appellant) on March 9, 1998, pursuant to section 307(c)(3)(B) of the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq. and the Department of Commerce's implementing regulations, 15 C.F.R. Part 930, Subpart H. The appeal is taken from an objection by the State of Florida, Department of Community Affairs, to the Appellant's consistency certification regarding a development and production plan (DPP) for the Destin Dome 56 Unit, located approximately 25 miles off the coast of Pensacola, Florida.

We were advised last month, informally, that Chevron and partners requested a withdrawal of all permit requests associated with the development of the Destin Dome 56 Unit project pending before the Minerals Management Service or the Environmental Protection Agency. We understand that Chevron's requested withdrawal of the permits, in effect, is a request to withdraw the DPP, an action required of Chevron and its partners by the settlement agreement referenced in your request. As the State of Florida's objection was based on the DPP, its withdrawal would render the questions raised on appeal moot.

For all of these reasons, the appeal is dismissed for good cause pursuant to 15 CFR 930.128 (2000).

Sincerely,

Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
Under Secretary of Commerce for
Oceans and Atmosphere

cc: Steve Seibert
Secretary, Department of
Community Affairs, State of
Florida

THE ADMINISTRATOR



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