



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

NOV 06 2009

OFFICE OF
AIR, WASTE AND TOXICS

Ms. Susan Childs
Regulatory Affairs Manager, Alaska Venture
Shell Offshore Inc.
3601 C Street, Suite 1314
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Re: Shell Offshore Inc. September 30, 2009 Revised PSD Permit Application for Frontier Discoverer Drill Vessel in the Beaufort Sea

Dear Ms. Childs:

On September 4, 2009, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10, sent Shell Offshore Inc. (SOI) an incompleteness determination letter for their May 29, 2009, Outer Continental Shelf Pre-Construction Air Permit Application for the Frontier Discoverer Beaufort Sea Exploration Program. In response to EPA's incompleteness determination, SOI submitted a revised Air Permit Application to EPA on September 30, 2009.

EPA has reviewed the September 30, 2009, revised Air Permit Application for the Frontier Discoverer Drill Vessel. At this time, EPA believes that the September 30, 2009, submittal includes enough information for EPA to move forward with the application. However, the Air Permit Application will not be complete until SOI submits the additional monitoring data requested in our prior letter and communications with you. EPA understands that SOI expects to have monitoring data reports on or about November 13 and December 22, 2009, and has committed to submitting those reports to EPA. We look forward to receiving the necessary information as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Natasha Greaves at 206-553-7079.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Albright", written over a horizontal line.

Richard Albright, Director
Office of Air, Waste and Toxics

cc Eric Hansen, Environ
Mark Schindler, Octane, LLC
Jeff Walker, MMS-Alaska Region
Kirk Winges, Environ