



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Big Thicket National Preserve

6044 FM 420

Kountze, Texas 77625

L3025 BITH

CERTIFIED-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 16, 2007

Mr. David Fisher, Esq.
Orgain, Bell & Tucker, L.L. P.
560 South Fourth Street
Silsbee, Texas 77656

Re: Work Plan for Site Characterization of Soil and Groundwater Investigation at the Buford Curtis, Inc. Rafferty Fee #1 Operations

Dear Mr. Fisher:

The National Park Service (NPS) received a letter dated July 12, 2007, from Adam Taylor of SKA Consulting, L.P. (SKA), responding to the NPS's June 4, 2007 letter regarding SKA's April 20, 2007, work plan.

The NPS approves the work plan, subject to changes addressed in the June 4 and July 12 letters. As per 36 CFR § 9.38(a)(1) of the NPS's Nonfederal Oil and Gas Rights Regulations, I hereby grant Buford Curtis, Inc., a 60-day temporary access permit effective August 20, 2007, for its contractor, SKA, to access the Rafferty Fee #1 operations area to conduct the characterization as specified in the work plan, as amended. The characterization qualifies as a categorical exclusion (CE) as per NPS Director's Order 12 (3.4(C)(11)). The enclosed CE form will be posted to the NPS's Planning, Environment and Public Comment website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>. Please submit the results of the site characterization within the 60-day timeline.

The temporary access permit is subject to the following condition:

- In the event that previously undiscovered cultural materials are discovered during the operation, work shall cease immediately and the NPS will be notified of the discovery.

If you have any questions, please contact Haigler "Dusty" Pate of my staff at 409-951-6822.

Sincerely,

Todd Brindle
Superintendent

Enclosure

cc:

Adam Taylor

Project Manager

SKA Consulting, L.P.

10260 Westheimer, Suite 605

Houston, TX 77042 w/o copy of enclosure

Guy Grossman

Director, District 3

Oil and Gas Division

Railroad Commission of Texas

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