



UNITED STATES  
**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION IV  
1600 EAST LAMAR BLVD  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

July 24, 2012

EA-12-141

Noble Energy, Inc.  
ATTN: Suzanna Hernandez  
100 Glenborough Dr. Suite 100  
Houston, Texas 77067

SUBJECT: VERIFICATION OF GENERAL LICENSE REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

Dear Ms. Hernandez:

This refers to the telephone conversation between Mr. Jason Razo of my staff and yourself on June 26, 2012. The purpose of the call was to notify you that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission would be sending this letter to you in order to verify that Noble Energy, Inc. was in compliance with the requirements of its general license.

Noble Energy, Inc. has a general license for the use of radioactive cesium-137 in a sealed source within a fixed gauging device. The device is affixed to a pipeline subsea in the Gulf of Mexico, in Federal jurisdiction. The NRC regulations in 10 CFR 32.52(a) require that the vendor, Roxar, Inc. or transferor, Apache Deepwater, LLC., report any transfers of generally licensed devices to the NRC. In 2012, the NRC was notified that the above-mentioned device had been transferred to Noble Energy, Inc.

Due to the nature of the transfer, the NRC requests that Noble Energy, Inc. respond to this letter within 30 days and acknowledge that it understands the requirements of its general license as outlined in 10 CFR 31.5. As part of that response, please verify that Noble Energy, Inc. will ensure that the required general license label is affixed to the device if or when the device returns to the surface.

If you have additional information that you believe the NRC should consider or review, you may provide it in, or attach it to, your response. The NRC review of your response to this request will also determine whether any enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and your response will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy or proprietary information so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction.

Noble Energy, Inc.

- 2 -

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. Jason Razo at 817-200-1589 or Mr. Michael Vasquez at 817-200-1130.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Anton Vogel, Director  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket: 9999-0004  
General Licensee

cc:  
Texas Radiation Control Program Director

Roxar Flow Measurement, Inc.  
ATTN: Ms. Marie Benson  
Radiation Safety Officer  
6005 Rogerdale Road  
Mail Stop: SC200.2  
Houston, Texas 77072

Noble Energy, Inc.

- 3 -

cc:

E. Collins  
A. Vogel  
V. Campbell  
G. Vasquez  
J. Whitten  
R4DNMS\_MS-A  
M. Herrera, Fee Coordinator

Hard copy:  
RIV Materials Docket File

S:\DNMS\~ESCALATED ENFORCEMENT\ACTIVE CASES\Roxar\customer enforcement\initial cover letters\Noble CL\_EA-12-141.docx ML12207A571

ADAMS	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review Complete	Reviewer Initials: JMR
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-publicly Available	<input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-sensitive	
DNMS:NMSB-A	C:MSBA	ACES	D:DNMS	
JMRazo;dlf	GMVasquez	HJGepford	AVegel	
<i>/RA/</i>	<i>JEWhitten for</i>	<i>/RA/</i>	<i>/RA/</i>	
7/19/12	7/24/12	7/24/12	7/24/12	

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

T=Telephone

E=E-mail

F=Fax