Supreme Court, U. S.
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JUN 9 1975.

MICHAEL RODAK, JR., CLERK

### No. 9, Original

## In the Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1974

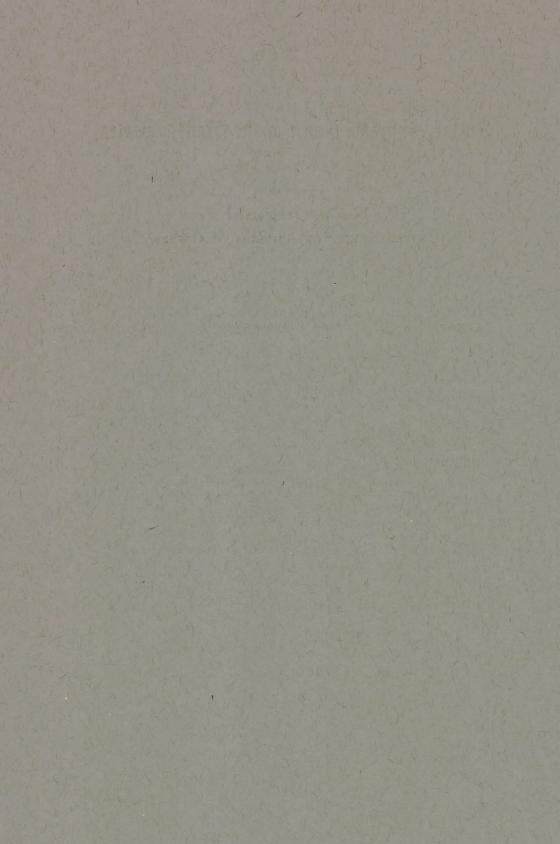
United States of America, plaintiff v.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, ET AL.

JOINT MOTION FOR ENTRY OF SUPPLEMENTAL DECREE, PRO-POSED SUPPLEMENTAL DECREE, AND MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION

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## In the Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1974

#### No. 9, Original

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PLAINTIFF

STATE OF LOUISIANA, ET AL.

#### MOTION FOR ENTRY OF A SUPPLEMENTAL DECREE

The United States of America and the State of Louisiana jointly move that the Court enter a decree in the form and manner of the attached proposed decree, which is explained in an accompanying memorandum presenting reasons and explaining the decree.

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## In the Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1974

No. 9, Original

United States of America, plaintiff v.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, ET AL.

#### PROPOSED SUPPLEMENTAL DECREE

#### PROPOSED DECREE

On March 17, 1975, this Court overruled the exceptions of the United States and the State of Louisiana to the Report and recommendations of the Special Master, accepted the Report of the Special Master and directed the parties "to prepare and file a decree, for entry by this Court, establishing 'a baseline along the entire coast of the State of Louisiana from which the extent of the territorial waters under the jurisdiction of the State of Louisiana pursuant to the Submerged Lands Act can be measured." The parties have agreed on a proposed decree establishing the coastline (baseline) of Louisiana in accordance with the Court's decision of March 17, 1975. That baseline is described in Exhibit A below. Accordingly:

It is ordered, adjudged and decreed:

- 1. As against the defendant State of Louisiana and all persons claiming under it, the United States has exclusive rights to explore the area of the Continental Shelf lying more than three geographical miles seaward of the line described in Exhibit A hereof, and to exploit the natural resources of said area and the State of Louisiana is not entitled to any interest in such lands, minerals, and resources, and said State, its privies, assigns, lessees, and other persons claiming under it are hereby enjoined from interfering with the rights of the United States in such lands, minerals and resources.
- 2. All sums now held impounded by the United States under the Interim Agreement of October 12, 1956, as amended, and derived from leases of lands lying wholly within the area referred to in paragraph 1 hereof are hereby released to the United States absolutely, and in accordance with the terms of the Interim Agreement, as amended, and the United States is hereby relieved of any obligation under said Agreement to impound any sums hereafter received by it from leases of lands lying wholly within said area.
- 3. As against the plaintiff United States and all persons claiming under it, the State of Louisiana has exclusive rights to explore the area lying within three geographical miles seaward of its coastline described in Exhibit A hereof, and to exploit the natural resources of said area, with the exceptions provided by Section 5 of the Submerged Lands Act, 67 Stat. 32, 43 U.S.C. 1313. The United States is not entitled to any interest in such lands, minerals, and resources and said United States, its privies, assigns, lessees and other

persons claiming under it are hereby enjoined from interfering with the rights of the State of Louisiana in such lands, minerals and resources.

- 4. All sums now held impounded by the State of Louisiana under the Interim Agreement of October 12, 1956, as amended, derived from leases of lands lying wholly within the area referred to in paragraph 3 hereof are hereby released to Louisiana in accordance with the Interim Agreement of 1956, as amended, and Louisiana is hereby relieved of any obligation under said Agreement to impound any sums hereafter received by it from leases of lands lying wholly within said area.
  - 5. Within 90 days after the entry of the Decree—
- (a) The State of Louisiana shall pay to the United States or other persons entitled thereto under the Interim Agreement of October 12, 1956, as amended, all sums, if any, now held impounded by the State of Louisiana under said Agreement, derived from or attributable to the lands, minerals or resources described in paragraph 1 hereof;
- (b) The United States shall pay to the State of Louisiana or other persons entitled thereto under the Interim Agreement, as amended, all sums, if any, now held impounded by the United States under said Agreement, derived from or attributable to the lands, minerals or resources described in paragraph 3 hereof;
- (c) Failure of either party to agree on correctness of the sums due the other shall in no way be reason to retard payment of sums which are admittedly due by the paying party's own calculations.

- 6. Within 60 days after the entry of this Decree-
- (a) The State of Louisiana shall render to the United States and file with the Court a true, full, accurate and appropriate account of any and all other sums of money derived by the State of Louisiana since June 5, 1950, either by sale, leasing, licensing, exploitation or otherwise from or on account of any of the lands, minerals or resources described in paragraph 1 hereof;
- (b) The United States shall render to the State of Louisiana and file with the Court a true, full, accurate and appropriate account of any and all other sums of money derived by the United States either by sale, leasing, licensing, exploitation or otherwise from or on account of the lands, minerals or resources described in paragraph 3 hereof;
- (c) Within 60 days after receiving the account provided for by paragraph 6(a) or 6(b) hereof, a party may serve on the other and file with the Court its objections thereto. Thereafter either party may file such motion or motions at such time as may be appropriate to have the account settled in conjunction with the issues concerning the areas still in dispute. If neither party files such an objection within 60 days, then each party shall forthwith pay to any third person any amount shown by such accounts to be payable by it to such person, and the party whose obligation to the other party is shown by such accounts to be the greater shall forwith pay to the other party the net balance so shown to be due. If objections are filed but any undisputed net balance is shown which will be due from one party to the other party or to any third

person regardless of what may be the ultimate ruling on the objections, the party so shown to be under any such obligation shall forthwith pay each such undisputed balance to the other party or other person so shown to be entitled thereto. The payments directed by paragraphs 5(a) and 5(b) hereof shall be made irrespective of the accountings provided for by paragraphs 6(a) and 6(b).

7. All sums heretofore impounded pursuant to the Interim Agreement of 1956, as amended, shall be fully accounted for and paid within the 90 days provided in paragraph 5, except as to split leases that accounting and payment may be deferred on royalty revenue from (a) non-unitized wells with completion points at unidentified locations or locations controverted by the parties; and (b) units partially shoreward of the three-mile boundary as to which there is no present agreement that participation is on a surface acreage basis.

Funds from split leases not accounted for and paid pursuant to the preceding sentence shall be the subject of the accounting to follow the next decree of this Court in this case, unless the parties agree on a prior distribution.

Except as provided above for accountings and payment, pending further order of the Court, leases of land lying partly within three miles of the line described in paragraph 9 hereof shall be in no way affected by anything contained in this Decree.

8. The parties may by agreement modify the time for accounting and payment in whole or part as the progress of technical work may indicate is necessary.

It is understood that the parties may be unable to agree on whether offsets are permitted or whether interest may be due on funds impounded pursuant to the Interim Agreement of October 12, 1956, or upon calculations or audits, and these issues, as well as others not expressly treated herein, shall in no way be affected by this Decree.

- 9. The coastline or baseline referred to in paragraphs 1 and 3, ante, is described by coordinates in the Louisiana plane coordinate system, south zone, as set forth in Exhibit A, appended to this Decree. This coastline supersedes all prior coastline descriptions of former decrees in this case and is the past and present coastline and shall constitute the coastline as of the date of the final decree in this case.
- 10. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 9, for limited time periods relevant to this Decree, certain of the points or lines contained in the above baseline description were not part of the Louisiana coastline, and for other periods additional points or lines must be added to that coastline. These variations are described in Exhibit B, which for the sectors and times given, describes portions of the baseline. Otherwise, the Louisiana coastline is to be taken as the same as the present coastline for all relevant times and purposes.
- 11. The parties are directed to establish lines three geographical miles seaward of the coastlines described in Exhibits A and B to be employed in accountings and submitted in the proposed final decree hereafter, delimiting the seaward limit of the State of Louisiana's rights under the Submerged Lands Act.

The parties are directed to prepare a final decree for entry by this court in the near future resolving the additional issues required to be dealt with that this litigation may be terminated, to include, but not necessarily be limited to, matters related to unresolved issues, if any, concerning accountings and payments, offset claims, payments to others, ambulatory boundary complexities or administrative problems.

- 12. The Court retains jurisdiction to entertain such further proceedings, enter such orders and issue such writs as may from time to time be deemed necessary or advisable to give proper force and effect to its previous orders or decrees herein or to this decree or to effectuate the rights of the parties in the premises.
- 13. Nothing in this decree nor in the proceedings leading to it shall prejudice any rights, claims or defenses of the State of Louisiana as to its maritime lateral boundaries with the States of Mississippi and Texas, which boundaries are not at issue in this litigation. Nor shall the United States in any way be prejudiced hereby as to such matters. Nor shall anything in this decree prejudice or modify the rights and obligations under any contracts or agreements, not inconsistent with this decree, between the parties or between a party and a third party, especially, but not limited to, the Interim Agreement of October 12, 1956, as amended, which agreement remains in effect except as explicitly modified hereby.

#### TORREST THE SERVICE EXHIBIT A

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			50545
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			46389
	~		45811
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THROUGH		2795853	44233
THROUGH		_ 2794722	43600
THROUGH		2793260	
THROUGH		_ 2788165	41464
			41083
THROUGH		_ 2783250	40321
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THROUGH			39422
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THROUGH.	2755709	364596
THROUGH	2755015	363480
THROUGH	2749221	35779
THROUGH	2746309	355438
THROUGH		354125
THROUGH		353794
THROUGH		-353754
THROUGH		334120
THROUGH		-333103
THROUGH		330868
THROUGH		329179
THROUGH		326779
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THROUGH	2715236	31839
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THROUGH		294303
TO		257755
A POINT AT	2688235	252215
A POINT AT	2689305	250395
A POINT AT	2700735	234640
A POINT AT		232820
A POINT AT	2707635	223640

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A LINE FROM	_ 2709100	220995
TO		209275
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A POINT AT	_ 2738320	210230
A POINT AT	_ 2738938	209975
A POINT AT	_ 2750755	206535
A POINT AT		204680
A POINT AT	2755178	203815
A POINT AT		186915
A POINT AT		186316
A POINT AT		183460
A POINT AT		182170
A POINT AT	_ 2751045	181305
A POINT AT		181270
A POINT AT		175902
A LINE FROM	_ 2734720	174030
TO		172295
A LINE FROM		162005
TO	2727215	156890
A POINT AT		150846
A POINT AT	_ 2726105	148530
A POINT AT		148150
A LINE FROM		153430
TO		152060
A LINE FROM		151595
THROUGH		124148
TO		12390
A POINT AT		118600
A POINT AT	_ 2699815	116800
A POINT AT		11670
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TO		
A POINT AT		133800
A LINE FROM		13689
THROUGH		
TO	2673482	14124

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THROUGH	2641835	129725
THROUGH	2639545	126825
THROUGH	2638945	126780
THROUGH	2635800	123995
THROUGH	2633755	121760
THROUGH.	2630660	116450
THROUGH	2628680	113190
THROUGH	2625550	109560
THROUGH	2624995	108700
THROUGH	2624760	108445
THROUGH	2624045	107660
THROUGH	2621925	105355
THROUGH	2620655	104065
THROUGH	2618380	102265
THROUGH	2615885	99131
THROUGH.	2615196	98279
THROUGH	2611843	94130
THROUGH	2610160	92050
THROUGH	2609785	91750
THROUGH	2609180	91445
THROUGH	2607290	93040
THROUGH	2607400	93175
THROUGH	2607455	93710
THROUGH	2608665	95870
THROUGH	2610650	98640
TO	2614224	105206
A POINT AT	2614270	110615
A POINT AT	2614553	111404
	2615475	113900
THROUGH	2615450	157770
THROUGH	2615135	<b>15989</b> 0
THROUGH	2614790	160765
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THROUGH.		178665
THROUGH		180190
THROUGH		182710
TO	2605025	183315
A LINE FROM	2604220	184790
THROUGH		186915
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THROUGH		189395
THROUGH		190595
THROUGH	2600780	192900
THROUGH	2598335	196450
THROUGH		199935
THROUGH	2593875	201260
THROUGH	2593340	201660
THROUGH	2590100	203860
THROUGH		204125
TO	2587400	205250
A LINE FROM	2585000	206975
THROUGH		207010
THROUGH		210023
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THROUGH		212986
TO	2565940	212988

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A LINE FROM		214045
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A POINT AT	2376485	164409
A LINE FROM	2374875	163200
THROUGH	2373613	162597
THROUGH	2369709	160120
TO	2367695	158943
A LINE FROM	2366789	158537
THROUGH	2365337	157918
TO	2364392	157349
A LINE FROM	2362830	157339
TO	2356733	154323
A LINE FROM		
TO	2353875	152659
A LINE FROM	2347871	153564
THROUGH	2342108	151526
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THROUGH	2322466	14439
TO	2320164	14381

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THROUGH	2317663	142869
THROUGH	2313902	141865
THROUGH	2312204	141813
THROUGH	2310546	141903
THROUGH		142401
THROUGH	2307414	143059
THROUGH	2306697	143789
THROUGH	2300326	139954
THROUGH	2298538	139073
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THROUGH	2295144	138550
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THROUGH	2291503	139861
THROUGH	2286402	140499
THROUGH	2281202	141484
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THROUGH	2270205	145091
THROUGH	2264450	147674
THROUGH	2260236	150105
THROUGH		151946
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THROUGH	2253306	154102
THROUGH	2222957	146695
THROUGH		146004
THROUGH		144971
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THROUGH	2215009	143380
THROUGH		141266
THROUGH		13851
THROUGH	2192330	136944
THROUGH	2186596	135997
THROUGH	2184788	13561
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THROUGH	2169680	135315
THROUGH		
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A LINE FROM	2162430	135112
TO	2157920	135521
A POINT AT	2155349	135847
A LINE FROM		136962
THROUGH	2147751	136599
THROUGH		136276
THROUGH.		136276
TO	2138231	136387
A LINE FROM	2134210	136726
THROUGH	2133089	136940
THROUGH	2128819	138694
THROUGH	2126697	139353
THROUGH	2122523	140238
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THROUGH	2118065	142532
THROUGH		143491
TO	2117632	143583
A POINT AT		175500
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THROUGH	2086261	187177
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THROUGH	2042475	201660
THROUGH	2037075	203200
THROUGH		203405
THROUGH		204235
THROUGH	2029630	205680
THROUGH	2026640	206660
THROUGH		208270
THROUGH		208850
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THROUGH		213268
THROUGH	2010960	216566
THROUGH		218388
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A POINT AT	1833527	27142
A POINT AT	1820994	29180
A POINT AT	1809845	29628
A POINT AT	1791584	30754
A POINT AT	1783067	32133
A POINT AT	1782391	32187
A POINT AT		32475
A LINE FROM	1763190	33354
TO	1762420	33359
A POINT AT	1758630	33349
A LINE FROM	175535	33504
THROUGH	1748380	33481
THROUGH	1743691	33437
THROUGH	1738236	33368
THROUGH	1735850	33306
THROUGH	1730831	33088
THROUGH	1726542	32926
THROUGH	1724713	32832
THROUGH	1722884	32777
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A LINE FROM	1431526	400742
THROUGH		400740
TO:		40148
A LINE FROM	1499035	401760
THROUGH		402610
THROUGH		403175
THROUGH		405700
THROUGH		407090
THROUGH		408365
THROUGH		408870
THROUGH		409180
THROUGH		40924
THROUGH		409216
THROUGH		409136
THROUGH		408500
THROUGH		407966
TO		406862
A LINE FROM	1363392	397870
TO	1362416	397822
A LINE FROM	1354310	403873
THROUGH		404620
THROUGH		405967
THROUGH	1333745	406888
THROUGH		407126
THROUGH		407138
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#### EXHIBIT B

From January, 1961 to December, 1969, the baseline in the East Bay vicinity from point X=2699435, Y=118600 to point X=2644940, Y=134910 deviates from the present baseline and may be described as follows:

A point at	X = 2699815	Y⇒116800
A point at	X = 2699695	Y = 116700
A line from	X = 2697850	Y=117200
Through	X = 2697510	Y = 117648
То	X = 2697300	Y = 118500
A line from	X = 2687638	Y=130705
Through	X=2685250	¥≕131590
Through	X = 2684417	X=131957
Through	X = 2683850	¥≈132390
Through	X = 2682580	Y=133325
Through	X = 2681624	Y = 134128
Through	X = 2677650	Y = 138050
Through	X=2644940	Y=134910

Prior to January, 1961 the baseline in the East Bay vicinity from point X=2699435, Y=118600 to point X=2644940, Y=134910 deviates from the present baseline and may be described as follows:

A point at	X = 2699435	Y=118600
A line from	X=2697850	Y=117200
Through	X = 2697510	Y=117648
То	X=2697300	Y = 118500
A line from	X = 2687638	Y = 130705
Through	X = 2685250	Y=131590
Through	X=2684417	Y=131957
Through	X=2683850	Y = 132390
Through	X = 2682580	Y = 133325
Through	X = 2681624	Y = 134128
Through	X=2677650	Y=138050
Through	X = 2644940	Y=134910

Prior to December 6, 1969 the baseline in the Pass du Bois vicinity from point X=2615450, Y=157770

to point X=2613550, Y=164745 deviates from the present baseline and may be described as follows:

A	point	at	x=2615151,	y = 158006
$\mathbf{A}$	point	at	x=2612771,	y=162310
A	point	at	x = 2612120,	y = 164118

From November 19, 1959 to February 1, 1960 the baseline in the Pass Tante Phine vicinity from point:

$$X=2606370$$
,  $Y=180190$  to point  $X=2598335$ ,  $Y=196450$ 

deviates from the present baseline and may be described as follows:

A point at X=2602000, Y=183535

From January 1, 1959 through March 31, 1959 and from March 1, 1964 through July 31, 1964 the baseline North of Pass Tante Phine from point X=2605025, Y=183315 to point X=2600780, Y=192900 deviates from the present baseline and may be described as follows:

A point at X=2602763, Y=186885.

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## In the Supreme Court of the United States

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OCTOBER TERM, 1974

No. 9, Original

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PLAINTIFF

v.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, ET AL.

## MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF JOINT MOTION FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL DECREE

On March 17, 1975, this Court accepted the recommendations of the Special Master and directed that the parties prepare a decree establishing "a baseline along the entire coast of the State of Louisiana from which the extent of the territorial waters under the jurisdiction of the State of Louisiana pursuant to the Submerged Lands Act can be measured." The proposed decree submitted herewith does this.

The problems existing between the parties cannot be totally resolved by a decree simply fixing the baseline. That is why prior partial decrees have employed three-mile projection technical descriptions, required judicial accountings, allotted time for technical or administrative work to proceed for such matters to be amicably resolved, or made certain exceptions, e.g., as to leases lying partly landward and partly seaward

of the three-mile projection of the baseline, herein called split leases. The proposed decree fixing the baseline will facilitate a three-mile projection agreement and enable partial accountings and payment of funds while continuing the Interim Agreement of October 12, 1956, as amended, in effect pending further technical work and negotiations on the more complex split lease problems and other technically difficult questions. The parties are hopeful that these remaining questions can be resolved in advance of submitting a final decree for consideration next Term; or, in the event of disagreement, they will be presented to the Special Master, pursuant to the Court's opinion of March 17, 1975.

#### EXPLANATION OF THE PROPOSED DECREE

Paragraphs 1 through 4 of the proposed decree are patterned after corresponding provisions of prior decrees, which partially adjudicated aspects of the controversy, but did not constitute a total or final decree. Paragraphs 1 and 3 adjudicate title; paragraphs 2 and 4 release leases lying wholly within the adjudicated areas to be released from revenue impoundment obligations and authorize self payment of those funds impounded by each government which belong to it under the Court's ruling. These provisions shall also enable leasing of formerly litigated lands, and receipt of new lease revenues by the owner, pending rendition of a final decree in the case.

Paragraph 5 makes provisions for accountings and payments as to impounded funds held by each government but payable to the other.

Paragraph 6 provides for accountings and payments of nonimpounded funds which may be payable by one government to the other or to third persons.

Paragraph 7 provides exceptions to accounting provisions for the special problems presented by split leases. Such leases create technical difficulties which might slow down accounting provisions if special provisions were not made.

Paragraph 8 permits the parties to modify the timetable for accounting payments provided in the decree. This provision is especially important since minor modifications of time may enable the completion of technical work and negotiations which avoid further controversy. Additionally, paragraph 8 provides that present or future differences between the parties not expressly treated by the decree, are not prejudiced by the decree.

Paragraph 9 describes the coastline or baseline by reference to the technical appendix, Exhibit A, and explains that this is a present and former coastline, with the exceptions noted in paragraph 10.

Paragraph 10 describes relevant former coastline variations, by reference to another technical appendix, Exhibit B. Exhibits A and B avoid cluttering the body of the decree with many pages of numbers and surveying calls which might be incomprehensible to nontechnical personnel and would interrupt the continuity of the text of the decree, a problem that users of former decrees have noted. Nonetheless, the publication of these descriptions as appendices or exhibits is essential because widespread dissemination of tech-

nical data is frequently employed by state and federal agencies and the oil and gas industries.

Paragraph 11 recognizes the necessity of a precise description of the three-mile line. Three-mile lines have been partially described in other decrees. Minor corrections are needed, recounting the mathematics to the nearest foot and doing away with a 1-foot hiatus in former technical descriptions. There is no present controversy about the system for constructing the three-mile line and the parties are near total agreement on the voluminous details required for a final and for the accountings and payments decision required by the decree. However, necessary technical checks are not yet complete, and due to the Court's imminent adjournment, we have not included them in the proposed form of the decree. This provision does, however, mandate that the parties establish these lines and submit them in a final decree, which should also deal with several matters which may require considerably more negotiation, but which are unrelated to proceeding with accountings and payments.

Paragraph 12 repeats a provision of a former partial decree, reserving jurisdiction.

Paragraph 13 is a self-explanatory, nonprejudice clause as to unrelated matters.

The parties will enter into a stipulation either concurrently with submission of this motion and proposed decree, or shortly thereafter after agreeing on three-mile projection descriptions and accounting details. It is expected that the agreed form of a final decree will be submitted before the end of 1975.

It would be desirable for the presently submitted decree to be entered prior to the Court's adjournment to facilitate financial disbursements and to expedite oil and gas leasing of importance to the United States and Louisiana.

#### CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, a decree should be entered in the form herein proposed. Respectfully submitted.

Attorney General. PAUL M. HEBERT, VICTOR A. SACHSE, OLIVER P. STOCKWELL, FREDERICK W. Ellis, WILLIAM E. SHADDOCK, Special Assistant Attorneys General. NORA K. DUNCAN, Staff Attorney.

WILLIAM J. GUSTE, JR., ROBERT H. BORK, Solicitor General. WALLACE H. JOHNSON. Assistant Attorney General. Louis F. Claiborne, Assistant to the Solicitor General. BRUCE C. RASHKOW. MICHAEL W. REED, Attorneys.

June 1975.

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