RPSEA 1402

Ultra Deepwater Dry Tree System for Drilling and Production

Technology Transfer Plan

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1 Introduction

Conceptual studies are being conducted for the design of a dry tree semisubmersible concept (SEMI) for ultra deep water Gulf of Mexico. As part of this work, SEMI configurations will be developed for two cases: 1) Base Case payload at 8,000 ft water depth, and 2) Sensitivity Case payload at 8,000 ft water depth.

This document summarizes the Houston Offshore Engineering (HOE) technology transfer plan for the conceptual study.

2 Technology Transfer Requirements

HOE shall work with RPSEA throughout the project to develop and implement an effective overall technology transfer program. HOE shall nominate work / activities for 1.5% of the project award (total cost) for project level technology transfer activities. These activities typically include participation in quarterly TAC meetings, writing technical papers and, as appropriate, participation in agreed conferences and workshops. RPSEA will also direct the expenditure of an additional 1% of the total project award for Program level technology transfer activities. The combined total project and program technology transfer activities will be 2.5% of the project award.

Technology transfer will begin after Stage 1 as the primary objective of Stage 1 is development of a semisubmersible configuration for a specific set of design criteria and performing a high-level review of the performance of the semisubmersible. At the conclusion of Stage 1, specific hull configurations will be selected for additional work in Stage 2 and Stage 3 and technology transfer activities will begin in these future Stages.

3 Technology Transfer Plan

The following ideas are suggested as possible approaches to technology transfer for this project:

1. **Participation in TAC Quarterly Meetings.** The quarterly meetings include industry representatives from operators, contractors and suppliers. Presentations of results and findings from the dry tree SEMI study will provide the opportunity for applications of the technology and/or combinations of the concept with other technology to further enhance options for future oil and gas developments.
2. **Model test demonstration and presentation.** Near the end of the model test program, it is recommended that some time be set aside (one or two half days) for a demonstration day in which oil and gas companies are invited to attend a presentation on the objectives and results of the model test program and a live demonstration of specific environmental conditions. The cost of transportation, promotion and preparation of the presentation, etc. should be considered a component of the technology transfer.

Similar model test demonstrations have been performed by HOE staff as part of commercialization of new technology and are considered an important step in demonstrating concept maturity to the oil and gas industry.

3. Preparation of technical papers for conference. An excellent avenue for technology transfer within the industry is publication of technical papers. Several conferences and events are available throughout any given year for presentation of key aspects of the technology program. The cost for preparing the paper and attending the conference would be part of the technology transfer funding.

Although technology transfer activities are planned primarily for Stages 2 and 3, HOE participated in a TAC Quarterly Meeting on March 3rd, 2009 during Stage 1.

More details regarding technology transfer will be identified in an updated revision of this plan during Stage 2 where specific activities and costs are identified.