



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20375

IN REPLY REFER TO:

11 June 1985

Mr. Charles E. Smith  
Minerals Management Service  
647 National Center  
Reston, VA 22091

Dear Charles:

Enclosed is a progress report on stress-corrosion cracking tests conducted on materials provided to NRL by Chevron. You can expect to receive a final report on this task by the end of FY-85.

Regarding additional work underway at NRL under MMS sponsorship, Joe Hauser and I are continuing follow-up tests here in Washington on materials provided by Conoco which were originally tested at Key West and reported upon a year ago. However, a final report on these follow-up Conoco tests may be as much as a year away. Basically, with both the Conoco and Chevron materials, we want to be very sure of their long-term behavior before giving them a clean bill of health for offshore applications.

A preliminary paper on the ripple-loading studies has been accepted by the ASME for presentation at a symposium in Bal Harbor, Florida next December and also for publication in the ASME Journal of Engineering Materials and Technology. In addition, Joe has been invited to offer an overview presentation on marine stress-corrosion cracking in high-strength steels at the 1986 Offshore Mechanics and Arctic Engineering Conference in New Orleans next February.

For FY-86, I am hopeful of receiving new funding on the ripple-loading problem from both ONR and the Coast Guard. Conoco has provided a large sample of Hutton Platform steel for the ripple-loading studies. If your organization could continue to provide some support for this study, which was originated solely under MMS sponsorship, I am confident that we would be in a position to develop both a basic understanding of the problem and its full engineering significance.

I shall be in contact with you soon. If you have any questions, please contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

*Tom*

Thomas W. Crooker  
Material Science and Technology Division  
Code 6384