

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
LOUISIANA

Offshore Liftboats, LLC v. GOL, LLC

Offshore Liftboats · No. 24-1632 · Decided January 15, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana granted Offshore Liftboats, LLC’s unopposed motion to stay discovery. The court stayed and administratively closed the matter pending resolution of an appeal in Seacor Marine, LLC v. GOL, LLC, while permitting either party to seek to lift the stay after the appeal.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Reg Gerard Guidry
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
DECIDED	January 15, 2026
DOCKET	24-1632
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff moved to stay discovery. Defendant initially opposed the motion but withdrew its opposition, and the district court granted the unopposed motion.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown

TOPICS

- discovery dispute
- appellate procedure
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- discovery
- admiralty

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the court should stay discovery and administratively close the matter pending resolution of the related appeal.

HOLDINGS

1. The court may stay discovery and administratively close the matter pending resolution of a related appeal when the motion has merit and good cause supports protection from undue burden or expense.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“District courts maintain “broad discretion and inherent power to stay discovery until preliminary questions that may dispose of the case are determined.”” (Order and Reasons)

“The court may, for good cause, issue an order to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense.” (Order and Reasons)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Offshore Liftboats, LLC brought this action against GOL, LLC. Plaintiff sought to stay discovery while an appeal in a related action, Seacor Marine, LLC v. GOL, LLC, was pending. GOL initially opposed the stay but later withdrew its opposition.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The action was pending in the Eastern District of Louisiana. Plaintiff moved to stay discovery, citing the pending appeal in Seacor Marine, LLC v. GOL, LLC. After Defendant withdrew its opposition, the court granted the motion, stayed the matter, and administratively closed the case pending resolution of the appeal.

DISPOSITION

other

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

Upon final resolution of the appeal, either party may move to lift the stay and request a scheduling conference to reset unexpired deadlines in the scheduling order.

CASES CITED

- Seacor Marine, LLC v. GOL, LLC, No. 24-cv-2409
- Fujita v. United States, 416 F. App’x 400, 402 (5th Cir. 2011)
- Petrus v. Bowen, 833 F.2d 581, 583 (5th Cir. 1987)

OPINION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA OFFSHORE LIFTBOATS, LLC CIVIL ACTION VERSUS NO: 24-1632 GOL, LLC SECTION: T (5) ORDER AND REASONS Before the Court is Plaintiff’s, Offshore Liftboats, LLC (“OLB”), Motion to Stay Discovery (R. Doc. 42). Defendant, GOL, LLC (“GOL”) initially opposed the Motion, R. Doc. 46, but it has since withdrawn its opposition, R. Docs.

50, 51; accordingly, the Motion is deemed to be unopposed. The Court has reviewed the Motion, the applicable law,¹ and the withdrawal of opposition from GOL, and concludes that the Motion has merit. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that the Motion is GRANTED and that the matter is STAYED and ADMINISTRATIVELY CLOSED pending the appeal in Seacor Marine, LLC v. GOL, LLC, No. 24-cv-2409, in the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Upon final resolution of the 1 District courts maintain “broad discretion and inherent power to stay discovery until preliminary questions that may dispose of the case are determined.” *Fujita v. United States*, 416 F. App’x 400, 402 (5th Cir. 2011) (quoting *Petrus v. Bowen*, 833 F.2d 581, 583 (5th Cir. 1987) (holding proper district court’s deferral of discovery while deciding whether defendants were proper parties to action)).

Specifically, under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c), “[t]he court may, for good cause, issue an order to protect a party or person from annoyance, embarrassment, oppression, or undue burden or expense.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c)(1). 1 appeal, either party may file a motion to lift the stay and request a scheduling conference to reset unexpired deadlines in the Scheduling Order (R.

Doc. 37). New Orleans, Louisiana, this 15 day of January 2026. REG GERARD GUIDRY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE