

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE
GULF OF MEXICO REGION

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. OCCURRED

DATE: 15-AUG-2007 TIME: 1230 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: BP Exploration & Production Inc.

REPRESENTATIVE: Sustala, Dennis
TELEPHONE: (281) 366-0898

CONTRACTOR:

REPRESENTATIVE: Richards, Ramsey
TELEPHONE: (281) 589-3894

3. OPERATOR/CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/SUPERVISOR
ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:

4. LEASE: G15607

AREA: GC LATITUDE:
BLOCK: 743 LONGITUDE:

5. PLATFORM:

RIG NAME: T.O. DEVELOPMENT DRILLER II

6. ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION (POE)

DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION
(DOCD/POD)

7. TYPE:

HISTORIC INJURY

- REQUIRED EVACUATION
- LTA (1-3 days)
- LTA (>3 days)
- RW/JT (1-3 days)
- RW/JT (>3 days)
- Other Injury

FATALITY

POLLUTION

FIRE

EXPLOSION

LWC HISTORIC BLOWOUT

UNDERGROUND

SURFACE

DEVERTER

SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

COLLISION HISTORIC >\$25K <=\$25K

- STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
- CRANE
- OTHER LIFTING DEVICE
- DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.
- INCIDENT >\$25K 62 bbls of SBM lost
- H2S/15MIN./20PPM overboard
- REQUIRED MUSTER
- SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
- OTHER

6. OPERATION:

- PRODUCTION
- DRILLING
- WORKOVER
- COMPLETION
- HELICOPTER
- MOTOR VESSEL
- PIPELINE SEGMENT NO.
- OTHER

8. CAUSE:

- EQUIPMENT FAILURE
- HUMAN ERROR
- EXTERNAL DAMAGE
- SLIP/TRIP/FALL
- WEATHER RELATED
- LEAK
- UPSET H2O TREATING
- OVERBOARD DRILLING FLUID
- OTHER _____

9. WATER DEPTH: 6822 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 122 MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: W
SPEED: 6 M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION: NW
SPEED: 1 M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: 2 FT.

17. INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:

On 15 August 2007 at approximately 1230 hours, a 62 bbl Synthetic Base Mud (SBM) discharge occurred while circulating mud in preparation to trip out of hole in order to set a storm packer. While circulating mud down the drill pipe to clean the wellbore of debris for setting the storm packer, the flow line valve to the shaker house was inadvertently closed. One minute after the valve closed, the high fluid level alarm for the diverter housing sounded. The driller sent someone to inspect the alarm while continuing to pump another three minutes before shutting off the flow to the mud pumps. During this time, the shaker hand and mud engineer notified the driller of no return mud flow and mud pit losses. Approximately one minute after the pumps were shut down, the flow line valve was reopened. The driller was informed that mud was on the diverter and in the moon pool area. Upon investigation, it was determined that 62 bbls of SBM was lost from the mud system. Investigation also led to find that the shunt valve on the drain line from the pollution pan to the overboard cuttings trough was in the open position and the majority of 62 bbls mud lost occurred through this valve. As a result of the closed flowline valve, the mud backed up and filled the diverter housing prior to overflowing into the pollution pan. As the pan filled, the mud went into the drain line and over the pollution pan containment into the moon pool. The BP Environmental pager was alerted and all regulatory notifications were conducted.

18. LIST THE PROBABLE CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

The main flow line to shaker house was inadvertantly closed, causing fluid to back-up and spill over the containment.

19. LIST THE CONTRIBUTING CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

The valve on the overboard shunt line was opened three weeks previously and left in the open position from a previous operation. The valve was specified to be closed at the end of that respective operation but had been inadvertantly left open. This provided a path for fluid to flow out of containment to the overboard line.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The tool pusher will be the only authorized person to open or close any valves that has the capability to discharge overboard. The BP Well Site leader will sign all permits that requires overboard discharge valves to be opened or closed. A blind flange was put on the drain line from the pollution pan to the overboard line. The pollution pan drain line is now routed to the skimmer tanks. Had the flowline been closed with the new routing of lines, no fluid would have gone overboard.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

There was no property damage, but 62 bbls Discharged into the GOM. of SBM was lost.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL): \$30,000

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

The Houma District has no recommendations for the Regional Office of Safety Management.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: **YES**

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

An Incident of Non-Compliance, E-100, will be written to the operator since this incident was due to human error.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

Ben Coco /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Michael J. Saucier

APPROVED

DATE: **15-OCT-2007**

