

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
GULF OF AMERICA REGION

For Public Release

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **01-JUL-2026** TIME: **1945** HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **Arena Offshore, LP**

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

CONTRACTOR: **Enterprise Offshore Drilling**

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

- ☐ STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
☐ CRANE
☒ OTHER LIFTING **Top Drive**
☐ DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.
☐ INCIDENT >\$25K
☐ H2S/15MIN./20PPM
☐ REQUIRED MUSTER
☐ SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
☐ OTHER

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

4. LEASE: **G36211**

AREA: **EI** LATITUDE:

BLOCK: **320** LONGITUDE:

5. PLATFORM: **B**

RIG NAME: **WFD 450**

6. ACTIVITY: ☐ EXPLORATION(POE)
☒ DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION(DOCD/POD)
☐ DECOMMISSIONING

7. TYPE:

INJURIES:

☐ HISTORIC INJURY

☒ REQUIRED EVACUATION

☐ LTA (1-3 days)

☒ LTA (>3 days)

☐ RW/JT (1-3 days)

☐ RW/JT (>3 days)

☐ FATALITY

☐ Other Injury

OPERATOR

CONTRACTOR

0

1

0

1

☐ POLLUTION

☐ FIRE

☐ EXPLOSION

LWC

☐ HISTORIC BLOWOUT

☐ UNDERGROUND

☐ SURFACE

☐ DEVERTER

☐ SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

COLLISION

☐ HISTORIC

☐ >\$25K

☐ <=\$25K

8. OPERATION:

- ☐ PRODUCTION
☒ DRILLING
☐ WORKOVER
☐ COMPLETION
☐ HELICOPTER
☐ MOTOR VESSEL
☐ PIPELINE SEGMENT NO.
☐ OTHER
- ☐ TEMP ABAND
☐ PERM ABAND
☐ DECOM PIPELINE
☐ DECOM FACILITY
☐ SITE CLEARANCE

9. CAUSE:

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

10. WATER DEPTH: **252** FT.

11. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **62** MI.

12. WIND DIRECTION:
SPEED: **6** M.P.H.

13. CURRENT DIRECTION:
SPEED: M.P.H.

14. SEA STATE: FT.

15. PICTURES TAKEN:

16. STATEMENT TAKEN:

Incident Summary:

At the time of the investigation, Marine Minerals Administration (MMA) personnel were operating under the former Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). Therefore, all MMA personnel referenced in this report will be identified as BSEE personnel.

On 1 July 2026, an Enterprise Offshore Drilling (Enterprise) Floor Hand, identified as the Injured Party (IP), sustained a facial injury while conducting drilling operations on Well B004 on the White Fleet Drilling (WFD) Rig 450 located at Eugene Island Block 320B. The severity of the injury required the IP to be evacuated from the WFD 450 for medical treatment.

Sequence of Events:

On 1 July 2026, an Enterprise crew was in the process of running in the hole with 4.5-inch drill pipe on Well B004. An Enterprise Floor Hand, the IP, was using a rope to assist the top drive in guiding the 4.5-inch drill pipe to the center of the rotary table. Enterprise's Drilling Operations Manual is referred to as "Tail-in" when tripping pipe into the hole. During this operation, as the top drive lifts one stand of drill pipe, the tail-in rope is used to wrap around the drill pipe while the other end of the rope is tied off on the choke stand manifold located on the WFD 450 rig floor. This technique applies additional friction to the drill pipe to control and gradually advance the pipe toward the center of the rotary table as the top drive raises the stand, in which the tripping in the hole process can be furthered. According to the onsite incident follow-up investigation and Arena documentation, while the 4.5-inch drill pipe was being lifted, the tail-in rope slipped from the IP's gloved hands, causing the drill pipe subsequently to swing toward the IP striking him in the face, knocking him back approximately five feet onto the rig floor. As a result, the IP sustained a 0.75-inch laceration to his forehead, along with minor skin abrasions below his left eyebrow and across the bridge of his nose. Minor capillary bleeding was documented in the Rig Medic's statement. Following the incident, the IP reported to the Rig Medic for evaluation. During the evaluation, the IP became dizzy and vomited. A video conference was conducted with an onshore physician. Based on the IP's symptoms and the medical assessment, the onshore physician and Rig Medic determined that the IP required transportation to a trauma center for further evaluation. The IP was evacuated by medevac helicopter to Ochsner Lafayette General Medical Center in Lafayette, Louisiana. He was diagnosed with a closed fracture of the frontal sinus and was released from the hospital on 3 July 2026, with two prescriptions. The IP was instructed not to return to work until cleared by a neurosurgeon or his primary care provider. On 7 July 2026, the IP received a medical clearance to return to work without restrictions or limitations.

BSEE Investigation:

On 7 July 2026, the MMA Lafayette District conducted an onsite Incident Follow-up (IF) Investigation. MMA investigators met with representatives from Arena and Enterprise and collected all available incident-related documentation. During the IF Investigation, MMA reviewed Enterprise's job safety analysis (JSA), Job Description and Hazards, and Drilling Operations Manual for Tripping Operations. Based on the investigation information reviewed, the MMA Incident Investigation Team determined that the incident resulted from the IP's body positioning and the use of a saturated tail rope. The JSA did not address the hazards of using a tail rope for tripping in the hole with drill pipe. Additionally, the IP failed to follow the hazards identified in the Job Description and Hazards or guidance provided in the Enterprise's Drilling Operations Manual for Tripping Operations.

18. LIST THE PROBABLE CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:**Human Performance Error:**

- Not aware of hazards. The IP's body position during tripping in the hole put him directly in the line of fire with the drill pipe. The rope that the IP was using was saturated with synthetic based drilling mud making it slippery to handle.

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

Human Performance Error:

- Not following proper procedures. The IP did not follow the procedures stated in the Job Description and Hazards and in Enterprise's Drilling Operations Manual for Tripping Operations.

Management Systems:

- Inadequate hazard analysis. The Enterprise JSA did not specially address the hazards associated with tripping in the hole with drill pipe using a tail rope.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

There was no property damaged during this incident.

Not applicable.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL): \$

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

The MMA Lafayette District makes no recommendations to the Office of Incident Investigations regarding this incident.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: NO

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

Not applicable.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

28. ACCIDENT CLASSIFICATION:

07-JUL-2026

26. Investigation Team Members/Panel Members: 29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION PANEL FORMED:

NO

27. OPERATOR REPORT ON FILE:

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Mark Malbrue

