UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
PACIFIC OCS REGION
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. OCCURRED
   DATE: 31-JAN-2004   TIME: 1410 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: Nuevo Energy Company
   REPRESENTATIVE:
   TELEPHONE:
   CONTRACTOR:
   REPRESENTATIVE:
   TELEPHONE:

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

4. LEASE: P00234
   AREA: LA   LATITUDE: 
   BLOCK: 6709   LONGITUDE: 

5. PLATFORM: HABITAT
   RIG NAME: 

6. ACTIVITY: [ ] EXPLORATION (POE)
   [X] 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

8. CAUSE:
   [ ] EQUIPMENT FAILURE
   [X] HUMAN ERROR
   [ ] EXTERNAL DAMAGE
   [ ] SLIP/TRIP/FALL
   [ ] WEATHER RELATED
   [ ] LEAK
   [ ] UPSET H2O TREATING
   [ ] OVERBOARD DRILLING FLUID
   [ ] OTHER

9. WATER DEPTH: 290 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 8 MI.

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

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

13. SEA STATE: FT.

14. PICTURES TAKEN: NO

15. STATEMENT TAKEN: NO
17. INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:

Platform crew member was in MCC room attempting to transfer power from jet water pump to fire water pump. Breaker did not match door cover linkage, so crew member removed outer switch cover to reset breaker. As he was reinstalling the cover, the outer screw came into contact with a live lead inside the breaker causing an electrical arc. The arc and smoke activated the Halon fire system and shut down the platform.

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

Elongated screw on outer breaker switch cover became misaligned when it was being manually threaded into the breaker assembly and came into contact with a live electrical lead producing an arc.

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

- Incompatible electrical equipment: Breaker switch handle was too short to be properly engaged by outer switch cover.
- Incompatibility of the equipment resulted in the unsafe work practice of opening the breaker panel door and removing the outer switch cover to access and reset breaker. In this instance, the work was performed by a contract roustabout.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The worker did not receive any injuries. The breaker unit was replaced with a more compatible type.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

480 VAC breaker assembly.  

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

Housing of breaker was scorched. Internal electrical breaker damage was also suspected.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):   $250

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

- Platform electrician changed out the damaged breaker assembly with a properly sized unit. The new breaker can be reset without opening the breaker panel door.
- A safety meeting covering electrical safety was held at the platform.
- Nuevo issued a safety alert to all of their operating facilities covering the incident and restating the company's electrical work policies.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: NO

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

None

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:  28. ACCIDENT CLASSIFICATION:

MMS - FORM 2010

PAGE:  2 OF 4

EV2010R

18-MAR-2013
26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS: S. J. Shaw /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION PANEL FORMED:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:
    OCS REPORT: THOMAS DUNAWAY

27. OPERATOR REPORT ON FILE: YES

APPROVED DATE: 13-FEB-2004