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

1. OCCURRED
DATE: 27-DEC-2004  TIME: 0250 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: Union Oil Company of California
REPRESENTATIVE: George Obey
TELEPHONE: (281) 295-6472

3. LEASE: 00196
AREA: MI  LATITUDE:
BLOCK: 32  LONGITUDE:

4. PLATFORM: F PROD
RIG NAME

5. ACTIVITY: ☑ EXPLORATION (POE)
☒ DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION (DOCD/POD)

6. TYPE: ☑ FIRE
☒ EXPLOSION
☒ BLOWOUT
☒ COLLISION
☒ INJURY NO. ______
☒ FATALITY NO. ______
☒ POLLUTION
☒ OTHER ______

7. OPERATION: ☑ PRODUCTION
☒ DRILLING
☑ WORKOVER
☒ COMPLETION
☒ 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: 20 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 8 MI.

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

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

13. SEA STATE: 2 FT.

14. OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE/SUPERVISOR ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:
Lionel Pitre
CITY: Sugar Land  STATE: TX
TELEPHONE: (281) 287-7425

15. CONTRACTOR:

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

CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/SUPERVISOR ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:

CITY: STATE: 
TELEPHONE: 

MMS - FORM 2010  PAGE: 1 OF 4
EV2010R  PROPRIETARY  22-FEB-2005
17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

At approximately 02:48 hours on December 27, 2004, an alarm was sounded at Unocal's Eugene Island 32 "A" platform. Personnel were alerted of a process equipment upset at their adjacent Eugene Island 32 "F" platform. The 32 "F" platform is unmanned and production process operations are monitored by use of a SCADA system from the 32 "A" platform. A boat was called to transport personnel to the 32 "F" to investigate the cause of the alarm. Upon arrival at Eugene Island 32 "F" platform at 05:45 hours, personnel reported that no pollution was observed originating from the platform. Once onboard it was determined that additional equipment (pumps, containers and hoses) would be needed to recover oil from the decks and sump system. Upon returning to the platform at 07:45 hours to begin clean up operations, personnel observed a slick leaving the platform in a northwest direction. While gathering information to be reported, a (MMS) inspector from the Lafayette District arrived on location. The pollution was reported to the NRC (Case No. 745385) at 08:00 hours; which documented that 75 gallons of light gravity oil was released from the sump tank outlet on the 32 "F" platform. With the platform totally shut in, no instrument gas supply was available to operate the sump pump to prevent oil from carrying over into the gulf. The platform decking was cleaned and the equipment involved in the incident was repaired. The platform was returned back to full production operations at 14:35.

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

The direct cause of the pollution incident was due to a section of wire line wire that had lodged in the water dump valve on the outlet of the (FWKO). The wire caused the valve to stay in the open position allowing all liquids from the (FWKO) to over flow to the skimmer. The SDV on the inlet to the skimmer did not function properly due to a build up of scale and corrosion inside the valve. The LSH on the skimmer performed its design function and shut in the platform. The dump valve on the (FWKO) was replaced and the SDV on the inlet of the skimmer was repaired.

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

Wireline rope left in one of the wells from a previous wireline operation apparently flowed through the production process system and became lodged in the water outlet dump valve of the (FWKO) causing the valve to malfunction.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Incident of Noncompliance (E-100) dated 12-27-04
21. PROPERTY DAMAGED: None

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRANCE NARRATIVE:

MMS recommended that the UNCAL operators initiate a regular maintenance program on all valves. The Lafayette District makes no recommendations to the Office of Safety Management.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: YES

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

Incident of Non-compliance (E-100) was issued on site to document the pollution incident. The operator was advised to submit a written report addressing the cause of the incident and measures to be implemented to prevent a reoccurrence.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

27-DEC-2004

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

Leo Dartez /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION PANEL FORMED: NO

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

FPausina for ESmith

APPROVED

DATE: 10-FEB-2005
POLLUTION ATTACHMENT

1. VOLUME:  
   GAL  1.81  BBL 
   100 YARDS LONG X 11500 YARDS WIDE  

APPEARANCE: SILVERY SHEEN

2. TYPE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED:  
   [X] OIL  
   [ ] DIESEL  
   [ ] CONDENSATE  
   [ ] HYDRAULIC  
   [ ] NATURAL GAS  
   [ ] OTHER  

3. SOURCE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: Platform Sump Tank

4. WERE SAMPLES TAKEN?  NO

5. WAS CLEANUP EQUIPMENT ACTIVATED?  NO
   IF SO, TYPE:  
   [ ] SKIMMER  
   [ ] CONTAINMENT BOOM  
   [ ] ABSORPTION EQUIPMENT  
   [ ] DISPERGANT  
   [ ] OTHER  

6. ESTIMATED RECOVERY:  0 GAL  BBL

7. RESPONSE TIME:  0 HOURS

8. IS THE POLLUTION IN THE PROXIMITY OF AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA (CLASS I)?  NO

9. HAS REGION OIL SPILL TASK FORCE BEEN NOTIFIED?  NO

10. CONTACTED SHORE:  NO  IF YES, WHERE:

11. WERE ANY LIVE ANIMALS OBSERVED NEAR:  NO

12. WERE ANY OILED OR DEAD ANIMALS OBSERVED NEAR SPILL:  NO