

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

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **04-NOV-2006** TIME: **1100** HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **BP Exploration & Production Inc.**

REPRESENTATIVE: **Earl Lee**  
 TELEPHONE: **(713) 422-4309**

CONTRACTOR:

REPRESENTATIVE:  
 TELEPHONE:

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

4. LEASE: **G08831**

AREA: **MC** LATITUDE:  
 BLOCK: **566** LONGITUDE:

5. PLATFORM:

RIG NAME: **DIAMOND OCEAN CONFIDENCE**

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  
 H2S/15MIN./20PPM  
 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: **6929** FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **71** MI.

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

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

13. SEA STATE: FT.

17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

While drill crew was reverse circulating after cement job, mud losses were noticed on V-ICIS system. Valve alignment was checked in the shaker house and one valve was found to be partially open on shunt line for mud pits allowing 127 bbls of Synthetic Oil Base Mud (SOBM) to go overboard of which 55% or 70 bbls was oil base.

Findings:

- 1) A JSA had been reviewed prior to the cement job. The possibility of "reversing out" was not in the JSA.
- 2) The shaker hand had been in that position for 18 months. He thought he had closed the butterfly valve completely.
- 3) Rough seas had the pvt registering a +/- 15 barrel reading resulting in slow response time in recognizing losses to active system.
- 4) The valve had not been previously identified on the "OBM Overboard Discharge" list. The reverse out line is used so infrequently it had been overlooked.

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

- 1) Human error. Employee did not verify that the valve was shut.
- 2) The valve had not been previously identified as having the potential to result in an unplanned release of SOBM.

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

- 1) Possibility of reverse circulating was not addressed on the JSA.
- 2) High seas causing a slow response time in detecting a loss of fluid.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

**Drilling fluid**

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

**Loss of 127 bbls of SOBM overboard**

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

**\$25,400**

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

**No recommendations to MMS.**

**The New Orleans District concurs with the operator's recommendation to prevent recurrence.**

**1) Employee moved to Floorhand for further training.**

**2) Add valve to master list of SOBM Overboard Discharges. Valves on this list require PTW to open or close. Add long term lock valve.**

**3) Write a specific "Reverse Circulating" JSA**

**4) Review incident with all crews.**

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

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

**G-110 Lessee did not perform operation in a safe and workmanlike manner while reverse circulating out. Employee failed to fully close an overboard valve causing SOBM to discharge into Gulf waters.**

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

**07-NOV-2006**

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

**Perry Jennings / Justin Josey /**

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

**Troy Trosclair**

APPROVED

DATE: **04-JAN-2007**

