

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

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

For Public Release

1. OCCURRED

DATE: 29-JUL-2022 TIME: 0900 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: Cox Operating, L.L.C.

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

CONTRACTOR:

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

- STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
- CRANE
- OTHER LIFTING
- 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:

8. OPERATION:

4. LEASE: G01084

AREA: WD LATITUDE:

BLOCK: 74 LONGITUDE:

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

5. PLATFORM: F

RIG NAME:

6. ACTIVITY:

- EXPLORATION(POE)
- DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION (DOCD/POD)

9. CAUSE:

7. TYPE:

INJURIES:

HISTORIC INJURY

OPERATOR CONTRACTOR

REQUIRED EVACUATION

LTA (1-3 days)

LTA (>3 days)

RW/JT (1-3 days)

RW/JT (>3 days)

FATALITY

Other Injury

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

POLLUTION

FIRE

EXPLOSION

LWC  HISTORIC BLOWOUT

UNDERGROUND

SURFACE

DEVERTER

SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

10. WATER DEPTH: 170 FT.

11. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 16 MI.

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

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

14. SEA STATE: FT.

15. PICTURES TAKEN:

16. STATEMENT TAKEN:

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

## INCIDENT SUMMARY:

On 29 July 2022, a gas leak occurred at West Delta (WD) 74, Platform "F", a production platform owned and operated by Cox Operating, LLC (Cox). The leak was discovered on a 3" line on the KAH-F002 High Pressure (HP) gas pipeline pig trap. This resulted in the facility being manually shut in by platform operators. No injuries, pollution, or other damages occurred from this incident.

## SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

On 29 July 2022 at approximately 0900 hours (hrs), platform personnel discovered a gas leak from a 3" line located on the KAH-F002 HP gas pipeline pig trap. After the leak was found, platform operators manually shut in the facility. Once the facility was shut in, operators then isolated the leak and bled down the pressure until repairs could be made. The pipeline had 1020-1050 psi at the time of incident. On 31 July 2022, the associated piping was replaced.

## BSEE INVESTIGATION:

On 3 August 2022, the incident was reported to the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE).

On 10 August 2022, the BSEE Accident Investigator (AI) obtained documents from Cox associated with the leak and discovered that a Level 1 survey of the platform was performed on 26 April 2021. The piping was reported as "bad condition with heavy surface corrosion, active pitting, and scale covering approximately 40% of the surface." The survey also reported "metal loss due to active pitting and scale" was noted on the cellar deck piping and piping supports. The Level 1 inspection defined by API RP 2A, rated the piping on the platform to be in "Bad" condition with a "C" rating, indicating that mitigations needed to be taken within 1 year.

## CONCLUSIONS:

Cox failed to properly maintain the platform piping. This is supported by the 26 April 2021 Level 1 survey that identified maintenance required within 1 year. As a result, corrosion of the associated piping led to the leak and caused the platform to have to be manually shut in.

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

- Equipment Failure - Inadequate preventive maintenance: Lessee failed to maintain piping associated with KAH-F002 HP gas pipeline pig trap.

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

- Management Systems - Environmental control programs: Lessee failed to develop an environmental control program to combat the corrosion that led to the gas leak.

## 20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

**Piping**

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

**Corrosion**

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

**The BSEE New Orleans District has no recommendations for the Office of Incident Investigations at this time.**

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

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

**• G111: DOES THE LESSEE MAINTAIN ALL EQUIPMENT IN A SAFE CONDITION TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE LEASE AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES?**

**Lessee failed to maintain piping associated with the KAH-F002 HP gas pipeline pig trap, resulting in a gas leak that occurred on 29 July 2022 due to corrosion.**

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

**03-AUG-2022**

26. INVESTIGATION TEAM MEMBERS:

**Nathan Bradley /**

27. OPERATOR REPORT ON FILE:

28. ACCIDENT CLASSIFICATION:

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

**David Trocquet**

APPROVED

DATE: **14-SEP-2022**