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

1. OCCURRED
 DATE: 11-AUG-2007  TIME: 1820  HOURS

2. OPERATOR: Hunt Petroleum (AEC), Inc.
   REPRESENTATIVE: Guidry, Victoria
   TELEPHONE: (713) 871-3400
   CONTRACTOR: ISLAND OPERATORS CO. INC.
   REPRESENTATIVE: Kirk Bellard
   TELEPHONE: (337) 233-9594

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

4. LEASE: G23936
   AREA: ST
   LATITUDE: 28.32483825
   BLOCK: 254
   LONGITUDE: -90.27938829

5. PLATFORM: A
   RIG NAME:

6. ACTIVITY:
   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
   STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
   CRANE
   OTHER LIFTING DEVICE
   DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.
   INCIDENT >$25K
   H2S/15MIN./20PPM
   REQUIRED MUSTER
   SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
   OTHER Malfunctioning LSH

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

9. WATER DEPTH: 219 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 55 MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: W
    SPEED: 9 M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION: SE
    SPEED: 2 M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: 3 FT.
On 11 August 2007 at 1820 hours, a pollution event occurred at the unmanned South Timbalier Block 254 Platform A. Well A2 on this structure produces a tight emulsion that requires heat in order for the oil and water to separate. The line heater on the facility had gone out and the emulsion was dumped to the flotation cell. Approximately 150 gallons of hydrocarbons were released from the flotation cell, facilitated by a malfunctioning Level Safety High (LSH). This resulted in an approximately 8 mile by 1/4 mile sheen. This sheen was discovered just before helicopter downtime on 11 August 2007. The next morning, platform operators flew approximately 20 miles in the last known direction of the sheen and saw no evidence of the sheen remaining. Operations were initiated to correct the problem while ensuring this event does not happen again.

The probable cause of this event was a malfunctioning LSH. The LSH did test good before and after the release, but failed to bleed off enough to trip the panel upon inspection on 13 August 2007.

The only contributing cause of this event was that the line heater had gone out.

Due to the specific nature of this incident, the Houma District has no recommendations to report to the Regional Office of Safety Management.

None

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL): $ 

Due to the specific nature of this incident, the Houma District has no recommendations to report to the Regional Office of Safety Management.

None

13–AUG–2007
26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:
   Lance Belanger / Amy Wilson /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION
   PANEL FORMED: NO

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:
   Michael J. Saucier

APPROVED
DATE: 01-OCT-2007
1. VOLUME: GAL 3.5 BBL

14080 YARDS LONG X 440 YARDS WIDE

APPEARANCE: RAINBOW SHEEN

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

3. SOURCE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: Flotation Cell

4. WERE SAMPLES TAKEN? NO

5. WAS CLEANUP EQUIPMENT ACTIVATED? NO

   IF SO, TYPE: □ SKIMMER
   □ CONTAINMENT BOOM
   □ ABSORPTION EQUIPMENT
   □ DISPERSANTS
   □ OTHER ____________________________

6. ESTIMATED RECOVERY: GAL BBL

7. RESPONSE TIME: 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