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

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. OCCURRED
   DATE: 16-JAN-2010  TIME: 0400  HOURS

2. OPERATOR: W & T Offshore, Inc.
   REPRESENTATIVE: Salter, Jeff
   TELEPHONE: (504) 210-8167
   CONTRACTOR:
   REPRESENTATIVE:
   TELEPHONE:

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

4. LEASE: G12008
   AREA: SS
   LATITUDE:
   BLOCK: 349
   LONGITUDE:

5. PLATFORM A
   RIG NAME:

6. ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION (POE)
   DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCT ON (DOCD/POD)

7. TYPE:
   
   [ ] HI STORI C I NJURY
   [x] EXPLORATI ON (POE)
   [ ] DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCT ON (DOCD/POD)
   [ ] STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
   [ ] CRANE
   [ ] OTHER LI FTI NG DEVI CE
   [ ] DAMAGED/ DI SABLED SAFETY SYS.
   [ ] SSV Actuator
   [ ] I NCIDENT >$25K
   [ ] H2S/15M N. /20PPM
   [ ] REQUI RED MUSTER
   [ ] SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
   [ ] OTHER

8. CAUSE:
   [x] EQUI PMENT FAI LURE
   [ ] HUMAN ERROR
   [ ] EXTERNAL DAMAGE
   [ ] SLI P/ TRIP/ FALL
   [ ] WEATHER RELATED
   [ ] LEAK
   [ ] UPSET H2O TREATING
   [ ] OVERBOARD DRI LLI NG FLUI D
   [ ] OTHER

9. WATER DEPTH: 372 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 81 MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: N
    SPEED: 1 M.P.H.

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

13. SEA STATE: 1 FT.

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17. INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:

On 16 January 2010 at approximately 0400 hours, the SS 349 Well A-11 actuator housing blew off and rocketed across the well bay striking and denting Well A-12 while automatically shutting-in Well A-11. No personnel were in the well bay area at the time of the incident, and there was no pollution resulting from this incident.

B & B Oilfield Services was called to review the failure, but due to inclement weather they were not able to make it to the platform with a new actuator until 17 January 2010. At approximately 0930 hours, B & B began gathering information for root cause analysis by collecting the broken and scattered pieces of the actuator housing. Minor damage was noted to the threads for the valve stem lockout cap. A new actuator was installed, the actuator bolts changed and the valve function tested several times. Well A-11 utilizes a hydraulic actuator with a rated working pressure of 5000 psi and a hydraulic panel operating at 4000 psi for opening the Surface Safety Valve (SSV). Valve service technicians inspected all actuators and determined that all eight bolts holding the actuator to the valve assembly failed. The failed actuator housing bolts and the destroyed parts of the housing were sent for failure analysis to WH Laboratory. Well A-11 remained shut-in until 1330 hours on 17 January 2010, with a cumulative estimated downtime of approximately 33 hours.

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

The Well A-1 actuator housing bolts blew off as a result of corroded housing bolts.

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

N/A

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Currently awaiting failure analysis results for the actuator housing bolts from WH Laboratory.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:  NATURE OF DAMAGE:

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Well A-12 and Well A-11. Well A-12 dented from the actuator housing collision, and Well A-11 valve stem lockout cap threads were damaged.

Estimated Amount (Total): $2,500

22. Recommendations to Prevent Recurrence Narrative:
Due to the specific nature of this incident, the Houma District has no recommendation to report the regional office.

23. Possible OCS Violations Related to Accident: No

24. Specify Violations Directly or Indirectly Contributing Narrative: N/A

25. Date of Onsite Investigation:

26. Onsite Team Members:
Ronald Washington /

29. Accident Investigation Panel Formed: No

30. District Supervisor: Bryan A. Domangue

APPROVED
DATE: 16-MAR-2010