

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

1. OCCURRED

DATE: **15-AUG-2006** TIME: **0800** HOURS

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

REPRESENTATIVE: **Anne-Renee Laplante**

TELEPHONE: **(281) 366-5155**

CONTRACTOR: **Transocean Offshore**

REPRESENTATIVE: **Bill Brown**

TELEPHONE: **(713) 232-8245**

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

4. LEASE: **G09866**

AREA: **MC** LATITUDE:

BLOCK: **776** LONGITUDE:

5. PLATFORM:

RIG NAME: **T.O. DISCOVERER ENTERPRISE**

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 **Pollution**

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: **5636** FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **60** MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: **SE**  
SPEED: **10** M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION: **E**  
SPEED: **2** M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: **2** FT.

17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

Early morning on August 15, 2005, the RC1 reserve pit was filled with water and the water was subsequently pumped overboard through the transfer (overboard) line from which a blank had been removed and a static sheen test was completed. The task was completed and a Permit to Work was completed. The blank on the overboard line was not replaced.

After tour change, the rig floor was in the process of performing a negative test on the well. Pit volumes were attained and walk through was held. The plan was to have Dowell pump water down the drill string taking returns up the backside with calcium bromide, over the shakers and into pit P4. Displacement was started and returns were monitored in P4. The assistant driller was monitoring P4 and Dowell to make sure we were getting a bbl in and a bbl out. A total of 120 bbls had been pumped with no problems. The derrick hand then called and stated he was going to start filtering fluid out of P4 into P2 and P5. The assistant driller agreed and the process was started.

The derrickman checked his line up in the mix pump room and the pit room and then lined up a centrifugal pump on P4 to supply fluid to the filter presses. He lined up his discharge from the filter press back to the transfer line which was routed to P2 and P5 active pits and started filtering fluid. With the blank out and valves open in process pump room fluid was being pumped to P2, P5 and overboard.

When the mud engineers strapped the mud pits and calculated their volumes at 2359, August 15, 2006, they could not account for 294 bbls of calcium bromide.

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

The probable cause was human error. The blank was not returned to the transfer/overboard line after finishing the previous job of dumping water from the reserve tank and the gate valve at the end of the overboard line was also left open.

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

1) The procedure for filtering brine, for lining up lines, and monitoring pits were not followed.

2) The procedure that requires removal of the blank on the transfer (overboard) line did not include the replacement of the blank at the completion of the procedure.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:  
294 bbl. Calcium bromide

NATURE OF DAMAGE:  
Lost overboard.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL): \$146,000

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

No recommendations to MMS.

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

1) A meeting was held with the appropriate members of the drill crews to discuss lessons learned.

2) Mud engineers will more closely monitor and inform the derrickman during operations.

3) Update procedure that require removal of the blank also require replacement of the blank at the completion on the procedure.

4) Reinforce procedure for filtering brine for lining up lines and monitoring pits as required by the TSTP.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: YES

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

30 CFR250.300(a) States in part...the lessee shall take measures to prevent unauthorized discharge of pollutants into the offshore waters.

E-100 Is the lessee preventing pollution of offshore waters?

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION  
PANEL FORMED: NO

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Troy Trosclar

APPROVED

DATE: 22-SEP-2006

# POLLUTION ATTACHMENT

1. VOLUME:                       GAL                                       BBL  
  YARDS LONG X                       YARDS WIDE

APPEARANCE:

2. TYPE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED:    OIL  
    DIESEL  
    CONDENSATE  
    HYDRAULIC  
    NATURAL GAS  
    OTHER   294 bbls of Calcium Bromide

3. SOURCE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED:   **Overboard line from pits.**

4. WERE SAMPLES TAKEN?   **NO**

5. WAS CLEANUP EQUIPMENT ACTIVATED?   **NO**

IF SO, TYPE:    SKIMMER  
                          CONTAINMENT BOOM  
                          ABSORPTION EQUIPMENT  
                          DISPERSANTS  
                          OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

6. ESTIMATED RECOVERY:                       **0** 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**