

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

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. OCCURRED

DATE: 31-JUL-2007 TIME: 1300 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: BP Exploration & Production Inc.  
REPRESENTATIVE: Sustala, Dennis  
TELEPHONE: (281) 366-0898  
CONTRACTOR:  
REPRESENTATIVE:  
TELEPHONE:

- STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
- CRANE
- OTHER LIFTING DEVICE
- DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.
- INCIDENT >\$25K
- H2S/15MIN./20PPM
- REQUIRED MUSTER
- SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
- OTHER BOP ring gasket/seal area

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

6. OPERATION:

4. LEASE: G15607  
AREA: GC LATITUDE:  
BLOCK: 743 LONGITUDE:

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

5. PLATFORM:  
RIG NAME: T.O. DEVELOPMENT DRILLER II

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

8. CAUSE:

7. TYPE:  
 HISTORIC INJURY  
 REQUIRED EVACUATION  
 LTA (1-3 days)  
 LTA (>3 days)  
 RW/JT (1-3 days)  
 RW/JT (>3 days)  
 Other Injury

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

FATALITY  
 POLLUTION  
 FIRE  
 EXPLOSION

9. WATER DEPTH: 6821 FT.

LWC  HISTORIC BLOWOUT  
 UNDERGROUND  
 SURFACE  
 DEVERTER  
 SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 122 MI.

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

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

COLLISION  HISTORIC  >\$25K  <=\$25K 13. SEA STATE: 1 FT.

17. INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:

On 30 July 2007 at approximately 2300 hours, the 13-5/8 inch casing was run, cemented in place, and the casing hanger was set. The annulus above the casing hanger pack-off was pressured up to test the pack-off. The pressure held for approximately 15 seconds when the pressure began to decline. Two more attempts were made to apply pressure to the annulus, where the pressure declined on both attempts and 10 bbls of Synthetic Based Mud (SBM) was lost at an undetermined location. All pressure was then bled off the annulus and two more attempts were made to pressure up on the annulus where 3 more bbls of SBM was lost for a total of 13 bbls. The casing running tool was then pulled out of the hole, inspected and determined to be in good condition. It was then decided to test the wellhead connector while the ROV observed.

On 31 July 2007 at approximately 1400 hours, the blind/shear rams were closed and the wellhead connection was pressured up. With approximately 600 psi, the ROV observed 7 bbls of SBM discharging from the wellhead connector port for a total of 20 bbls. After setting a packer in the well, the Blowout Preventer (BOP) stack was pulled to surface for inspection. The BOP connector ring gasket seal area showed signs of wash in two places, as well as wash on two places of the ring gasket itself.

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

The leak resulted from the hydrate seal interfering with the metal to metal seal area causing the wash out area on the BOP connector during the high pressure setting of the 13-5/8 inch casing pack-off.

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

Hydrate seal laid across the ring during initial BOP landing operation.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

None.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

Lower seal area on top of the BOP connector and ring gasket for the seal area.

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

Wash out areas on the BOP connector seal area as well as wash out areas on the ring gasket for the BOP connector seal area.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL): \$25,000

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRANCE NARRATIVE:

The Houma District has no recommendations for the Regional Office of Safety Management.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: NO

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

**None.**

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

**Ben Coco /**

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION  
PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

**Michael J. Saucier**

APPROVED

DATE: **26-SEP-2007**

# POLLUTION ATTACHMENT

1. VOLUME: GAL 20 BBL  
YARDS LONG X YARDS WIDE

APPEARANCE:

2. TYPE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED:  OIL  
 DIESEL  
 CONDENSATE  
 HYDRAULIC  
 NATURAL GAS  
 OTHER **SBM**

3. SOURCE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: **Riser leak at seafloor**

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: 0 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**

