

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: 04-FEB-2012 TIME: 0445 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: Chevron U.S.A. Inc.

REPRESENTATIVE:
TELEPHONE:

CONTRACTOR: Transocean Offshore

REPRESENTATIVE:
TELEPHONE:

- STRUCTURAL DAMAGE
- CRANE
- OTHER LIFTING DEVICE
- DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.
- INCIDENT >\$25K
- H2S/15MIN./20PPM
- REQUIRED MUSTER
- SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
- OTHER **SBM spill**

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

6. OPERATION:

4. LEASE: G16942

AREA: WR LATITUDE:
BLOCK: 29 LONGITUDE:

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

5. PLATFORM:

RIG NAME: T.O. DISCOVERER INDIA

6. ACTIVITY:

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

8. CAUSE:

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

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

9. WATER DEPTH: 5193 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 139 MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: SE
SPEED: 18 M.P.H.

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

13. SEA STATE: 5 FT.

14. PICTURES TAKEN: NO

15. STATEMENT TAKEN: NO

17. INVESTIGATION FINDINGS:

On February 4, 2012, an employee was lining up to go overboard with seawater. A valve misaligned with the mud pits caused approximately 100 barrels of Synthetic Oil Based Mud (62 barrels oil) to be pumped into the Gulf of Mexico.

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

Employee failed to isolate one of the valves coming from one of the active pits.

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

-Inattention to detail; the employee did not ensure that the valve was fully closed before moving on to the next task.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

n/a

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

Loss of 100 barrels of SBM.

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

100 barrels of Synthetic Oil Based Mud spilled into the Gulf of Mexico.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL): \$21,195

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRANCE NARRATIVE:

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: YES

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

An E-100 was issued on Feb. 7, 2012 stating the following: On Feb. 4, 2012, at approximately 04:40, while preparing to pump seawater overboard from the Slug Tank, a valve coming from the Active Mud Pits was left in the open position allowing communication between the tank and pits. Failure to isolate the valve resulted in the release of 100 bbls. of SOBM into the Gulf of Mexico.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

07-FEB-2012

28. ACCIDENT CLASSIFICATION:

MINOR

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: NO

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Jeramie Liner / Cedric Bernard /
James Richard /

Bryan Domangue

27. OPERATOR REPORT ON FILE: **NO**

APPROVED

DATE:

20-JUN-2012

