UNIVERSAL STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE
GULF OF MEXICO REGION
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. OCCURRED
DATE: 10-JUN-2005 TIME: 0930 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: Pioneer Natural Resources USA, Inc.

3. LEASE: G03171
AREA: PL LATITUDE:
BLOCK: 13 LONGITUDE:

4. PLATFORM: S
RIG NAME

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

6. TYPE: FIRE
EXPLOSION
BLOWOUT
COLLISION

7. OPERATION: PRODUCTION
DRILLING
WORKOVER
COMPLETION
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: 35 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 10 MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: E
SPEED: 20 M.P.H.

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

13. SEA STATE: 2 FT.

14. OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE/SUPERVISOR ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:
James Whitney
CITY: Houma
STATE: LA
TELEPHONE:

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

16. OTHER pollution through human error.

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EV2010R
09-AUG-2005
17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

On June 10, 2005, at approximately 0930 hours, while enroute to another location, the inspectors noticed a sheen coming from the Pelto 13 structure. While circling the platform in the helicopter, oil was seen coming off of the production deck of the S-structure to the gulf waters. After landing at the location and going down to the production deck, the inspectors witnessed three operating personnel attempting to reattach flanges to a 2-inch ball valve on an oil treater vessel while oil was spraying from the flanges onto the operators. Oil was also spraying onto live electrical conduit wiring, electrical junction boxes and around the structure into the gulf waters.

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

The removal of the bolts from two 2-inch flanges on the water dump line which in turn caused uncontrolled flow of water and then oil from the flanges to the gulf waters. Also, oil flowing into the treater skid drained to the sump tank (ABH-110). The sump pumps were unable to keep up with the amount of oil being drained into the tank, causing the oil to eventually be discharged through the sump tank overboard water line to the gulf waters. It should also be noted that the containment skid located under the oil treater had at least nine holes in its bottom permitting oil to rain down into the gulf waters.

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

Poor job planning by the operating personnel prior to performing the work on the treater’s water line. The oil was not removed from the vessel before disconnecting the flanges on the dump line. No risk assessment or job safety analysis was performed prior to beginning the job.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The inspectors witnessed the operating personnel, while being sprayed and completely covered in oil, use steel hammers and chisels as well as an air powered impact wrench during the operation. Should a fire have started due to a spark, one or more deaths could have occurred as well as major damage to the structure and the equipment on it. An Incident of Noncompliance, E-100, was issued.
21. PROPERTY DAMAGED: n/a
   NATURE OF DAMAGE: n/a

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRANCE NARRATIVE:
   Due to the nature of this incident we have no recommendations.

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: YES

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:
   1. G-110 unsafe workmanlike operations
   2. E-102 inadequate containment
   3. E-100 pollution

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:
   10–JUN–2005

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:
   Julie King / Terry Hollier /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION PANEL FORMED: NO

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:
   Michael J. Saucier
   APPROVED
   DATE: 08–AUG–2005
POLLUTION ATTACHMENT

1. VOLUME: GAL 2 BBL

3500 YARDS LONG X 1800 YARDS WIDE

APPEARANCE: RAINBOW SHEEN

2. TYPE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: [ ] OIL
   [ ] DIESEL
   [ ] CONDENSATE
   [ ] HYDRAULIC
   [ ] NATURAL GAS
   [X] OTHER sheen with dark patches

3. SOURCE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: Heater Treater

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 SPILL: NO

12. WERE ANY OILED OR DEAD ANIMALS OBSERVED NEAR SPILL: NO