

U.S. Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

Notice No. 013

November 20, 1974

OCS Operations Safety Alert

Fire--Chlorine Gas

A minor fire on an offshore production platform recently became a potentially deadly situation by generating chlorine gas.

Heat from the exhaust of a generator set fire to the tie-down ropes on a life raft located on a rail outside the generator building. The fire spread through the raft igniting containers of chlorine tablets producing chlorine gas.

One man was overcome by the gas but fortunately was not serious injured. The fire was easily extinguished.

To prevent recurrence of such incidents, the operator has conducted an inspection of all platforms to insure that all combustible material is a safe distance from engine exhausts.

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