



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

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Notice No. 010

August 15, 1974

### OCS Operations Safety Alert

#### Stem Blowout of Grove B-4 Ball Valves

Two incidents were recently reported by an operator in which the stems of Grove B-4 ball valves blew out while attempting to close the valves. Excessive torque was required to close the valves, which resulted in shearing the pins holding the stems in place. Fortunately, only very minor injury to personnel occurred, with no damage to the property or environment.

These valves can be modified to correct this potentially dangerous situation. Information on modification can be obtained from:

Grove Valve and Regulator Company

2525 No. Loop West

Suite 416

Houston, Texas 77001

Telephone: (713) 869-7311

[signature] D.W. Solanas

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Field Operations

Gulf of Mexico Area