

UNITED STATES 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.**
 REPRESENTATIVE: **Cal Girouard**
 TELEPHONE: **(337) 237-7810**

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
 INJURY NO. 0
 FATALITY NO. 0
 POLLUTION
 OTHER pollution through human error.

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.

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

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

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE 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**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Michael J. Saucier

APPROVED

DATE: **08-AUG-2005**

