



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

Notice No. 117

October 3, 1983

Fatality While Testing Gas Turbine Meter

A field production employee was fatally injured while preparing to spin test a gas turbine meter on a production test separator. The employee had apparently failed to block and bleed off the pressure on the test separator and was in the process of removing the half clamps on the meter assembly when it blew off, striking the employee in the abdomen. He was taken to a hospital by helicopter but succumbed during surgery.

In order to prevent a recurrence of this type of accident, the operator recommends the following:

Installation of block valves upstream and downstream of the turbine meter and a blowdown valve between the block valves to simplify the block and bleed procedure.

[signed] D.W. Solanas

Regional Supervisor

Offshore Operations Support