



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

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Notice No. 027

July 21, 1975

OCS Operations Safety Alert  
Gas in Generator Room Explodes

A gas explosion and minor fire recently occurred on an offshore platform during workover operations.

A well was being killed with salt water by reverse circulation. A degasser was available but was not in use. Gas-cut returns from the well were being discharged directly into the mud pit which was located beneath the generator motor room. Gas from the mud pit accumulated in the generator motor room and an explosion occurred, blowing both doors off of the generator room. Small residual fires broke out but were quickly extinguished. Fortunately, only one man received injuries and these injuries were minor.

To prevent a recurrence of such an explosion, the operator is taking the following action:

1. Instructing all employees in the proper manner of handling gas through degassing equipment.
2. Discussing the incident during scheduled safety meetings.

[signed] D.W. Solanas

Oil and Gas Supervisor

Field Operations

Gulf of Mexico Area