

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
 GULF OF MEXICO REGION  
**ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT**

1. OCCURRED  
 DATE: **04-AUG-2008** TIME: **1400** HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **Apache Corporation**  
 REPRESENTATIVE: **Orr, Daniel**  
 TELEPHONE: **(337) 354-8000**  
 CONTRACTOR: **ISLAND OPERATORS CO. INC.**  
 REPRESENTATIVE: **Marcus Meaux**  
 TELEPHONE:

3. OPERATOR/CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/SUPERVISOR  
 ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:

4. LEASE: **G02393**  
 AREA: **HI** LATITUDE:  
 BLOCK: **A 573** LONGITUDE:

5. PLATFORM: **A**  
 RIG NAME:

6. ACTIVITY:  EXPLORATION(POE)  
 DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION  
 (DOCD/POD)

7. TYPE:  
 HISTORIC INJURY  
 REQUIRED EVACUATION  
 LTA (1-3 days)  
 LTA (>3 days)  
 RW/JT (1-3 days)  
 RW/JT (>3 days)  
 Other Injury

FATALITY  
 POLLUTION  
 FIRE  
 EXPLOSION

LWC  HISTORIC BLOWOUT  
 UNDERGROUND  
 SURFACE  
 DEVERTER  
 SURFACE EQUIPMENT FAILURE OR PROCEDURES

COLLISION  HISTORIC  >\$25K  <=\$25K

STRUCTURAL DAMAGE  
 CRANE  
 OTHER LIFTING DEVICE  
 DAMAGED/DISABLED SAFETY SYS.  
 INCIDENT >\$25K **Fire**  
 H2S/15MIN./20PPM  
 REQUIRED MUSTER  
 SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE  
 OTHER

6. OPERATION:

PRODUCTION  
 DRILLING  
 WORKOVER  
 COMPLETION  
 HELICOPTER  
 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: **327** FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **118** MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION:  
 SPEED: M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION:  
 SPEED: M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: FT.

17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

On August 4, 2008, subsequent to returning from Hurricane Ike evacuation to the Apache Corporation Lease OCS-G 02393, High Island A573 Platform A, contract personnel opened the generator room door to observe soot and ash on the generator room's floor. There was also the remnant of a fire still burning next to the emergency diesel generator. The fire was immediately extinguished with a 30 lb hand held fire extinguisher. Following the incident investigation, MMS determined that the main fire occurred while the platform was evacuated, and resulted from a melted generator fuel line. At this point in the investigation the generator's manual fuel line ball valve was closed to isolate the fuel source.

18. LIST THE PROBABLE CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

The generator's fuel line developed a leak to become the fuel source of the fire. Although undetermined, the ignition source of the fire is anticipated to be the generator because of its proximity to the fire.

19. LIST THE CONTRIBUTING CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:

A loose connection or pinhole in the fuel line was estimated to be possible sources of the fuel line leak.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The emergency generator was left running after evacuation and is necessary to power the communications hub located at HI A 573 A platform. The severity of a future similar event could be mitigated by locating the SDV for the generator's fuel supply outside of the generator building to prevent from having to enter the generator building in order to close the manual fuel line ball valve to isolate the fuel source.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

**Generator is fire damaged. Room is covered with soot and debris.**

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

**Fire and heat damage to the emergency generator and immediate proximaty.**

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

**\$75,000**

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

**The MMS Lake Jackson District makes no recommendation to the MMS Regional Office of Safety Management (OSM).**

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: **NO**

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

**05-SEP-2008**

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

**Stephen P. Martinez /**

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

**John McCarroll**

APPROVED

DATE: **12-JAN-2009**