

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

1. OCCURRED

DATE: 13-NOV-2008 TIME: 0100 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: Wild Well Control, Inc.

REPRESENTATIVE: Savoy, Joe

TELEPHONE: (281) 784-4700

CONTRACTOR:

REPRESENTATIVE:

TELEPHONE:

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

4. LEASE: 00133

AREA: GI LATITUDE: 28.95
BLOCK: 47 LONGITUDE: -90.017

5. PLATFORM: C
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
- H2S/15MIN./20PPM
- REQUIRED MUSTER
- SHUTDOWN FROM GAS RELEASE
- OTHER

6. OPERATION:

- PRODUCTION
- DRILLING
- WORKOVER
- COMPLETION
- HELICOPTER
- MOTOR VESSEL
- PIPELINE SEGMENT NO.
- OTHER **P&A and Salvage job.**

8. CAUSE:

- EQUIPMENT FAILURE
- HUMAN ERROR
- EXTERNAL DAMAGE
- SLIP/TRIP/FALL
- WEATHER RELATED
- LEAK
- UPSET H2O TREATING
- OVERBOARD DRILLING FLUID
- OTHER **Mechanical Failure**

9. WATER DEPTH: 91 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 12 MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: N
SPEED: 29 M.P.H.

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

13. SEA STATE: 6 FT.

17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

On November 13, 2008, at 0750 hours on Wild Well Control, Inc's. (WWCI's) Lease OCS 00133, Grand Isle Block 47, Platform C, Plug and Abandonment (P&A) and salvage operations were shut down when the operator discovered a pollution event. The operator initially reported that the incident was caused by a wellhead being struck while removing a debris basket, but subsequent to the incident investigation it was determined that the incident resulted from wellhead mechanical failure. On November 13, 2008, WWCI reported an estimated release of 2.1 barrels, while O'Brien's Group reported an estimated release of 33.3 barrels. On November 25, 2008, the MMS New Orleans District conducted an onsite investigation to estimate the worse case total volume of 36.9 barrels (versus the accumulation volume of 5.7 barrels estimated by WWCI) for the entire event that occurred from November 13, 2008 to November 25, 2008.

Sequence of Events:

- 1) 11-13-08: The Superior Performance was preparing to remove debris baskets from the site, when the Operator discovered that a pollution event was occurring and all operations were shut down prior to WWCI investigating the incident. The Gulf Diver V (GDV) then moved on location to stop and identify the source of the leak.
- 2) 11-14-08: The release was initially thought to be from the C-7 Well, but it was discovered that the source of the release was the C-14 Well. The GDV's attempt to stop the leak was unsuccessful so it moved off location, and the Superior Performance moved onto location.
- 3) 11-15-08: The Superior Performance attempted unsuccessfully to stop leak with a pollution dome, tanks, hoses, gas busters, splash zone and synthoglass.
- 4) 11-16-08: The decision was made to mobilize and install several different types of wellhead configurations to contain the product.
- 5) 11-17-08 thru 11-18-08: Weather downtime.
- 6) 11-19-08: Initial cuts were made on casings to install the 7 5/8" wellhead. The well is bent over at 40 degrees from horizontal, and WWCI is monitoring the well.
- 7) 11-20-08: The wellhead was installed and tested. The pollution has stopped, with 400 psig on the wellhead.
- 8) 11-21-08: The wellhead pressure increased to 750 psig. Monitored well, with final wellhead report.
Barge proceeded to pick up debris baskets.
- 9) 11-22-08: Barge rigging and picking up debris baskets.
- 10) 11-23-08: Barge continues rigging and picking up debris baskets.
- 11) 11-24-08 @ 0100 hours: Barge notes gas bubble off of the stern with some sheen visible at night. 0300 hours: Initial spill report filed with the National Response Center (NRC). Diver inspected well C-14 and discovered well leaking from 10 3/4" x 7 5/8" casing annulus. The diver cannot determine if wellhead seals are leaking or if gas is coming from deeper annulus depth. 0700 hours: First overflight. Estimated 1.82 bbls on water. Spill direction to 280 degrees. Well continues to bubble.

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

Mechanical Failure: Wellhead failed.

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

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Attached A - eWell Offshore Incident Report (OIR) dated 11-24-08 (3 Pages)
- Attached B - New Orleans District's OIR Report dated 11-25-08 (2 Pages)
- Attached C - Operator's Project Memo and picture of wellhead dated 11-24-08 (4 Pages)
- Attached D - Operator's Oil Spill Estimator Report (14 Pages)
- Attached E - Operator's Flyover Reports (15 pages)

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

None

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

None

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

\$

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

The MMS New Orleans District makes no recommendations to the MMS Regional Office.

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

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

No INC issued.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

25-NOV-2008

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

**Phil McLean / Mark Hasenkampf /
Tom Meyer /**

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

David J. Trocquet

APPROVED

DATE: **14-JAN-2009**

POLLUTION ATTACHMENT

1. VOLUME: GAL 36.9 BBL
YARDS LONG X YARDS WIDE

APPEARANCE: **BARELY VISIBLE**

2. TYPE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: OIL
 DIESEL
 CONDENSATE
 HYDRAULIC
 NATURAL GAS
 OTHER _____

3. SOURCE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED: **Mechanical failure on the C-14 Well**

4. WERE SAMPLES TAKEN? **NO**

5. WAS CLEANUP EQUIPMENT ACTIVATED? **NO**

IF SO, TYPE: SKIMMER
 CONTAINMENT BOOM
 ABSORPTION EQUIPMENT
 DISPERSANTS
 OTHER _____

6. ESTIMATED RECOVERY: 0 GAL BBL

7. RESPONSE TIME: HOURS

8. IS THE POLLUTION IN THE PROXIMITY OF AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA (CLASS I)? **NO**

9. HAS REGION OIL SPILL TASK FORCE BEEN NOTIFIED? **NO**

10. CONTACTED SHORE: **NO** IF YES, WHERE:

11. WERE ANY LIVE ANIMALS OBSERVED NEAR: **NO**

12. WERE ANY OILED OR DEAD ANIMALS OBSERVED NEAR SPILL: **NO**