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

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

1.	OCCURRED	8.	CAUSE: X EQUIPMENT FAILURE
	DATE: 18-MAR-2005 TIME: 1115 HOURS		HUMAN ERROR
2.			EXTERNAL DAMAGE
	OPERATOR: Shell Offshore Inc.		
			WEATHER RELATED
	REPRESENTATIVE: Rodney Landry		LEAK
	TELEPHONE: (504) 728-1472		UPSET H2O TREATING
3	LEASE: G07963		$\overline{\mathbf{x}}$ Overboard drilling fluid
٥.			OTHER
	AREA: MC LATITUDE: BLOCK: 807 LONGITUDE:	9.	WATER DEPTH: 2945 FT.
			DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 67 MI.
4.	PLATFORM: A-Mars TLP		WIND DIRECTION: N
	RIG NAME H&P 201		SPEED: 2 M.P.H.
5.	ACTIVITY: X EXPLORATION(POE)	12	CURRENT DIRECTION: N
	DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION		SPEED: 2 M.P.H.
	(DOCD/POD)	1.0	GD1 GD1 DD
6.	TYPE: FIRE	13.	SEA STATE: 4 FT.
	EXPLOSION		
	BLOWOUT		
	☐ COLLISION	16.	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE/ SUPERVISOR ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:
	□ INJURY NO.		
	☐ FATALITY NO.		Rodney Landry
	□ ——— ▼ POLLUTION		CITY: Delcambre STATE: LA
	OTHER		TELEPHONE: (337) 685-4515
7	Ц		CONTRACTOR: Helmerich & Payne
<i>'</i> .			
	x DRILLING		
	WORKOVER		CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/ SUPERVISOR ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:
	COMPLETION		Marty Smith
	MOTOR VESSEL		CITY: Viaden STATE: MS
	PIPELINE SEGMENT NO.		_ TELEPHONE: (662) 464-5642

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OTHER

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17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

During drilling operations a temporary fourth mud pump was installed with a Dynamic Annular Pressure Control System (DAPC) equipped with a pop-off valve on the discharge that was piped to a tank with a capacity of 15 barrels. The pop-off valve was set to relieve at 1250 psi, but the valve failed and prematurely relieved at 400 psi and filled the tank before the mud pump could be shut down and isolated. The tank overflowed and approximately 9 barrels of Rheliant Synthetic Based Mud (SBM) spilled with a ratio of 54% oil, 22% solid and 24% water. Of the total 9 barrels spilled about 3 barrels were on the rig floor and walls of the platform and 6 barrels spilled overboard. The National Response Center was notified pursuant to regulations.

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

The cutting box was not large enough to handle the amount of fluid generated by the activation of the PSV.

- 19. LIST THE CONTRIBUTING CAUSE(S) OF ACCIDENT:
 - a) The PSV on the mud pump was faulty.
 - b) The PSV was not tested to set pressure before it was put into service.

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21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

Synethic Based Mud (SBM) lost overboard.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

\$899

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRANCE NARRATIVE:

No Recommendations to MMS.

The New Orleans District concurs with Shell Offshore Inc.'s recommendations to prevent a recurrence as stated below:

Corrective actions taken included a valve replacement with a new pop-off valve that was bench tested on site to 1500 psi, the discharge line was re-piped to the trip tank with a larger capacity of 50 barrels, along with the installation of a level alarm set to prevent overflow.

- 23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: YES
- 24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

E-100 30 CFR 250.300(a) States in part that...During the exploration, development, and production of oil and gas, the lessee shall take measures to prevent unauthorized discharge of pollutants into the offshore waters.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

18-MAR-2005

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

Randy Josey / Perry Jennings /

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION PANEL FORMED: NO

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Troy Trosclair

APPROVED

DATE: 09-MAY-2005

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EV2010R * * * * * * * * PROPRIETARY * * * * * * 10-MAY-2005

POLLUTION ATTACHMENT

1.	VOLUME: GAL	6	BBL		
	YARDS LONG X		YARDS WIDE		
	APPEARANCE: BARELY VISI	BLE			
2.	TYPE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED:	X OIL			
		DIES	EL		
		COND	ENSATE		
		HYDR	AULIC		
		NATU	RAL GAS		
		X OTHE	Synethic Base Mud		
3.	SOURCE OF HYDROCARBON RELEASED:	Mud Pu	mp Discharge PSV		
4.	WERE SAMPLES TAKEN? NO				
5.	. WAS CLEANUP EQUIPMENT ACTIVATED? NO				
	IF SO, TYPE: SKIMMER				
	CONTAINMENT BOOM				
	ABSORPTION E	QUIPMENT			
	DISPERSANTS				
	OTHER				
6.	ESTIMATED RECOVERY:	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? YES				
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				

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