

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

1. OCCURRED

DATE: 18-JUN-2005 TIME: 2315 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: Chevron U.S.A. Inc.

REPRESENTATIVE: Tim Guidry

TELEPHONE: (337) 989-3829

3. LEASE: G02047

AREA: EC LATITUDE:

BLOCK: 272 LONGITUDE:

4. PLATFORM: D

RIG NAME

5. ACTIVITY: EXPLORATION(POE)

DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION
(DOCD/POD)

6. TYPE: FIRE

EXPLOSION

BLOWOUT

COLLISION

INJURY NO. 0

FATALITY NO. 0

POLLUTION

OTHER

7. OPERATION: PRODUCTION

DRILLING

WORKOVER

COMPLETION

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: 182 FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: 79 MI.

11. WIND DIRECTION: ESE

SPEED: 3 M.P.H.

12. CURRENT DIRECTION:

SPEED: M.P.H.

13. SEA STATE: FT.

14. PICTURES TAKEN: YES

15. STATEMENT TAKEN: YES

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

Kenneth Strange

CITY: Lafayette STATE: LA

TELEPHONE: (337) 989-3829

CONTRACTOR: Danos & Curole Marine
Contractors, Inc.

CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE/
SUPERVISOR ON SITE AT TIME OF INCIDENT:

CITY: STATE:

TELEPHONE:

17. DESCRIBE IN SEQUENCE HOW ACCIDENT HAPPENED:

Gas blow-by occurred from the H.P. separator water dump, which in turn dumps to the produced water skimmer. The skimmer operates in atmospheric service and the vent gas off the skimmer relieves to the oil stock tank which has two primary VPSV's and two secondary VPSV's. When the primary vents could not keep up with the amount of gas being relieved to the oil stock tank, the secondary vents which are local vents relieved causing a large accumulation of gas next to the gas compressor and generator building and the fire occurred.

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

1. Liquid level dump controller on the H.P. separator malfunctioned allowing gas blow-by to the oil stock tank.
2. Secondary VPSV's on the oil stock tank relieved a large volume of gas which accumulated in a hazardous area.
3. Generator building not being properly isolated allowed a high concentration of gas to migrate inside the building.

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

1. Operators were not very familiar with the entire process flow and panel logic on the platform.
2. Operator failed to address critical warning signs which occurred early during the day.
 - a. Several gas alarms in the gas generator building. (doors to building open)
 - b. LSL liquid level switch on the H.P. separator malfunction.
 - c. Liquid level dump controller on the H.P. separator malfunction.
 - d. Increase fluid production in the H.P. separator.
 - e. H.P. separator panel logic problems not allowing both H.P. wells to shut-in.

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED: **Electrical components** NATURE OF DAMAGE: **Minor**

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL): **\$150,000**

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRANCE NARRATIVE:

23. POSSIBLE OCS VIOLATIONS RELATED TO ACCIDENT: **YES**

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

G-110 Operator failed to perform operations in a safe manner.
* Inadequate supervision and operator oversight led to a unsafe work environment.
* The lessee failed to ensure that the personnel assigned to the facility were fully capable of operating the facility in a safe manner.
* Personnel onboard the facility failed to utilize company STOP work authority policy which allowed critical warning signs to be overlooked.
* Improper isolation of the gas generator building allowed a high concentration of gas to migrate inside the building resulting in a flash fire.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION: **20-JUN-2005** 28. ACCIDENT CLASSIFICATION: **MAJOR**

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS: **Royce Buford / Milford Cole / Eric Fontenot / Wayne Meaux / Scott Mouton /** 29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION PANEL FORMED: **NO**
OCS REPORT:

27. OPERATOR REPORT ON FILE: **YES** 30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR: **Larry Williamson**

APPROVED
DATE: **23-AUG-2005**