

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
GULF OF MEXICO REGION

ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT

For Public Release

1. OCCURRED

DATE: 09-OCT-2011 TIME: 1100 HOURS

2. OPERATOR: **Black Elk Energy Offshore Operatio**
REPRESENTATIVE:
TELEPHONE:
CONTRACTOR:
REPRESENTATIVE:
TELEPHONE:

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

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

6. OPERATION:

4. LEASE:

AREA: **HI** LATITUDE:
BLOCK: **A 571** LONGITUDE:

- PRODUCTION
- DRILLING
- WORKOVER
- COMPLETION
- HELICOPTER
- MOTOR VESSEL
- PIPELINE SEGMENT NO.
- OTHER

5. PLATFORM:

RIG NAME: *** COIL TUBING UNIT (L.J. DIST)**

6. ACTIVITY:

- EXPLORATION (POE)
- DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTION (DOCD/POD)

8. CAUSE:

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

7. TYPE:

- HISTORIC INJURY
- REQUIRED EVACUATION 6
- 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

9. WATER DEPTH: **283** FT.

10. DISTANCE FROM SHORE: **113** MI.

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

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

13. SEA STATE: FT.

Flowing back Well A1 after pumping Weatherford Sand Aid treatment.
Operator pumped/injected 343 bbls of chemical treatment down production tubing utilizing a closed/sealed system.
Chemicals being used were identified to be a hazard to personnel in thier MSDS sheets.
After a few hours of wait time, Operator conducted flow back operations at 2400 hours receiving well fluid into an open air return containment system.

At 0610 hours tower change occured with day crew coming on duty.
At 0620 hours crew rigged up diaphragm pump to filter pod to filter out returns and rerout flow back path sending well fluid returns to platform deck drainage sump system.
At 1130 IPVST Halliburton day crew employees started complaining of headache, nausea, and moved to fresh air.
Team supervisor inspected pump and tank due to strong fumes. Decision was made to continue work.
At 1400 hours cleanFE out 100 bbl tank sending filtered KCL to sump, sucking off Sand Aid and sending to cutting box.
Nausea, headache, eye, throat, and nose irritation HFUUJOH XPSTF followed by vomiting of Halliburton employees.
At 1500 hours KPC shutdown BOE all ill employees TFOU to hospital.

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

Did not flow back into a closed/sealed system.
Additionally operator routed well fluid returns to platform deck drainage sump system.

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

Chemical manufacture recommendations, JSA's and MSDS's were not followed

20. LIST THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Revise Black Elk policies pertaining to JSA's
Follow recommendations of the MSDS
Follow written procedures for any task being done.

21. PROPERTY DAMAGED:

NATURE OF DAMAGE:

ESTIMATED AMOUNT (TOTAL):

22. RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT RECURRENCE NARRATIVE:

The Lake Jackson District has no recommendations for the Agency.

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

24. SPECIFY VIOLATIONS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING. NARRATIVE:

G-110:

a) October 8, 2011 , October 9, 2011:

Threat for failure to follow JSA by not utilizing Air Purifying Respirators to prevent exposures of hazardous chemicals

b) October 9, 2011:

Occurrence of injury to personnel, and failure follow Stop Work Authority procedures.

c) October 10, 2011:

Threat for failure to utilize Air Purifying Respirators to prevent Exposures during cleanup operations.

G-112:

October 9, 2011:

Threat for failure to take necessary precautions to prevent hazardous accumulation of chemicals in an unapproved manner resulting in toxic fumes in the facility's deck drainage system.

E-100:

October 10, 2011:

Occurrence of unauthorized release of hazardous chemicals into Gulf Water.

25. DATE OF ONSITE INVESTIGATION:

11-OCT-2011

26. ONSITE TEAM MEMBERS:

**Marco Deleon / Phillip Couvillion /
James Holmes /**

29. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

PANEL FORMED: **NO**

OCS REPORT:

30. DISTRICT SUPERVISOR:

Stephen Martinez

APPROVED

DATE: **08-JUL-2013**