

# Lamar McKay

## May 11, 2010 Written Congressional Testimony



Lamar McKay

*Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee Hearing, May 11, 2010  
Written Testimony Lamar McKay Chairman & President, BP America  
Chairman Bingaman, Ranking Member Murkowski, members of the committee, I am Lamar McKay, Chairman and President of BP America.*

We have all experienced a tragic series of events.

It went to be clear from the onset that we will not rest until the well is under control. As a responsible party under the Oil Pollution Act, we will carry out our responsibilities to mitigate the environmental and economic impacts of this incident. We – and, indeed, the entire energy sector as a whole – are determined to understand what happened, why it happened, take the lessons from this incident, and make the changes necessary to make our company and our industry stronger and safer. We understand that the world is watching and that we and our industry colleagues will be judged by how we respond to these events.

Three weeks ago tonight, eleven people were lost in an explosion and fire aboard the Transocean Deepwater Horizon drilling rig, and seventeen others were injured. My deepest sympathies go out to the families and friends who have suffered such a terrible loss and to those in Gulf Coast communities whose lives and livelihoods are being impacted.

This was a homegrown accident. We are all devastated by this. It has profoundly touched our employees, their families, our partners, customers, those in the surrounding areas and those in government with whom we are working. There has been tremendous shock that such an accident could have happened, and great sorrow for the lives lost and the injuries sustained.

The safety of our employees and our contractors and the safety of the environment are always our first priorities.

The data described throughout this testimony is accurate to the best of my knowledge as of this Monday, May 10, 2010, when this testimony was submitted. The information that we have continues to develop as our response to the incident continues.

Story continues below

Even as we absorb the human dimensions of this tragedy, I want to underscore our intense determination to do everything humanly possible to minimize the environmental and economic impacts of the resulting oil spill on the Gulf Coast. From the outset, the global resources of BP have been engaged. Nothing is being spared. We are fully committed to the response.

And from the beginning, we have never been alone. On the night of the accident, the Coast Guard helped rescue the 11 survivors from the rig. The list of casualties could easily have been longer without the professionalism and dedication of the Coast Guard.

Even before the Transocean Deepwater Horizon sank on the morning of April 22nd, a Unified Command structure was established as provided by federal regulations.

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Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Investigations take time, of course, in order to ensure that the **root cause** of the failure is fully understood.

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