

**From:** Herbst, Lars

**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2010 10:36 PM

**To:** LaBelle, Robert; Cruickshank, Walter; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Bromwich, Michael R; Saucier, Michael; Domangue, Bryan

**Subject:** Potential shut in disagreement with DOE

I just received a call from Doug Suttles- COO of BP that there appears to be a major disagreement between federal scientists in Houston and BP. It appears that DOE is instructing BP to open the well back up to flow because they believe the pressures indicate a broach condition. I left the UAC at 7:00 And pressures, although low had built up and remained steady. There was never a break over in pressure to indicate any breakdown of the shoe. They are monitoring the sea floor for any broach to surface. At our meeting on Friday, all agreed that a broach condition discovered early would not result in a permanent flow path to surface. BP is sending me the data in a minute and I will review again. There is much confusion as to who is in charge of technical decision making at the Federal level. Up to this point decisions were made through the Unified command. USCG, BOEM, BP. Some decisions are also obviously made by Admiral Thad Allen at the NATional Incident Command. It is uncertain what clear role DOE has in the process. This could be headline news by am that Feds can not agree. I would imagine Secretary Chu is in conversation with Secretary Salazar, but not certain.

I will be in touch with Houston shortly

Lars

Sent from my BlackBerry Wireless Handheld

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**From:** LaBelle, Robert

**To:** Herbst, Lars

**Sent:** Thu Jul 15 19:48:19 2010

**Subject:** Re: Macondo is shut in

Hope you are proud of your contribution. We are.

Bob

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**From:** Herbst, Lars

**To:** Cruickshank, Walter; Ishee, Mary Katherine; Bromwich, Michael R; LaBelle, Robert

**Sent:** Thu Jul 15 13:36:55 2010

**Subject:** Macondo is shut in

Closure of the capping stack occurred at 2:25pm. Pressures are stabilizing. The test and evaluation for broach condition will continue. Currently no oil flowing into Gulf.

