

I was only able to scan the report on the containment effort. Seems quite good and comprehensive. Well done. Some descriptions of events are different than I recall, but the differences are not of great consequence.

Unless I missed it, the report did not describe very much about the critical time when the flow was finally able to be estimated by the DOE team and as a consequence the whole flow rate effort was brought to a conclusion for a government official estimate. The pressure measurements taken in the capping stack allowed fairly straight forward engineering calculations to be done when the flow to the sea was only out of the new kill valve and part of the flow was still going to the surface from the lower lines. This changed everything in the understanding of the flow and will be the basis for all future deliberations on the flow including interaction between the US government and parties held liable for the accident. These critical measurements allowed a quantitative basis to evaluate the flow which was done by DOE scientists over a critical weekend and culminated in bringing together all the flow rate teams who ultimately agreed that the DOE estimate was the one to claim as the official government estimate. These estimates at day 87 were combined with depletion estimates by DOE and USGS scientists to get the estimate over the 87 day period.

Containment casing method: This case was an important case because it was an important demonstration of technology. The discussion was about requiring a relief well as a containment feature. I am sure everyone realizes that cement went into the well almost 6 weeks before the relief well intercept.

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