

From: Looney, Bernard
Sent: Sun May 30 16:15:07 2010
To: Dudley, Robert; Suttles, Doug J; Inglis, Andy G (UPSTREAM); Wells, Kent; Auchincloss, Murray M; Dupree, James H
Cc: Hayward, Tony B
Subject: FW: "BOP on BOP" / Containment
Importance: Normal
Attachments: Containment Decision.doc
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Team

Admiral Allen asked Tony for a simple note to get us all on the same page with regard to the decision on "BOP on BOP". We have just sent this to him. We may get some feedback from him so you may want to hold off on using the script until we hear back.

Bernard

Bernard Looney
SPU Leader North Sea

Assistant: Lesley Foote (+44 1224 832470)

Company Details: BP Exploration Operating Company Limited
Registered office: Chertsey Road, Sunbury on Thames, Middlesex, TW16 7BP
Registered in England and Wales, number 305943

From: Looney, Bernard
Sent: 30 May 2010 11:13
To: 'Thad.W.Allen@uscg.mil'
Cc: Hayward, Tony B
Subject: "BOP on BOP" / Containment

Admiral Allen

Tony asked that I forward this to you. He is in Louisiana and his blackberry coverage is poor.

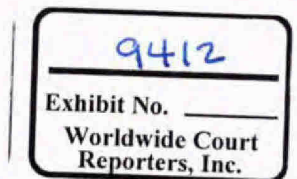
Please let us know if you have any feedback.

Thank you.

Bernard Looney
SPU Leader North Sea

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Rationale for Containment vs "BOP on BOP"

Our Strategy to Date

1. Do not take action which could cause the situation to deteriorate;
2. Work all possible options - and in parallel;
3. Leverage the resources of industry and government to fullest extent – "no stone left unturned".

Learning's from "Top Kill" Operation

1. Diagnostics and data acquired suggest that rupture disks in the 16" casing *may* have failed during the initial well control event;
2. *If* they have failed, any attempt to "shut in" the well from the surface (eg using the BOP on BOP option) could cause hydrocarbons to flow to shallow formations and onwards to the seafloor.

Decision

- As this possibility cannot be ruled out – the lowest risk option is to contain the well flow and not shut the well in;
- As a result, the "BOP on BOP" option has been discontinued. The DDII is consequently returning to drilling operations;
- We move forward with Containment in three phases:
 - (i) LMRP Cap;
 - (ii) Flowback to Q4000 along with LMRP Cap;
 - (iii) Permanent Riser flowing to FPSO / Shuttle Tanker.