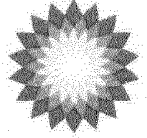


From: Suttles, Doug J
Sent: Mon May 24 13:45:10 2010
To: Inglis, Andy G (UPSTREAM); Dupree, James H
Subject: Ltr to Admiral Landry re: Top Kill Operation
Importance: Normal
Attachments: 05241002.PDF



Doug Suttles

Chief Operating Officer



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May 23, 2010

Rear Admiral Mary Landry
Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District
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Top Kill Operation

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Dear Admiral Landry:

On May 21, 2010, a meeting was held at the Unified Area Command (the "UAC") post in Robert, Louisiana, and via teleconference, the Houston Incident Command Post (the "Houston ICP") to discuss the Momentum Kill Pumping Operation (the "Top Kill Operation"). The objective of the meeting was to establish the prerequisites for the Top Kill Operation, high level overview of the operations, key decision points as well as significant risks. I know Captain Little will have reviewed with you what was discussed at the meeting. The purpose of this letter is to provide a summary of the prerequisites, the operations and the risks associated with the Top Kill Operation.

The prerequisites for the Top Kill Operation are:

- (1) 18" Casing cemented in place on the MC252 #3 Relief well.
- (2) Continuous subsea dispersant application in place to mitigate VoCs around the Top Kill Operation vessels.
- (3) Procedures and Equipment in place ready to remove the riser from the top of the Deepwater Horizon BOP.
- (4) Transocean Development Driller II ready to run their BOP on top of the Deepwater Horizon BOP.
- (5) Ability to monitor the subsea pressures at the choke and kill lines as well as at the base of the Deepwater Horizon BOP stack.

- (6) Weather window of sufficient duration to complete the operation.
- (7) LELs / VoC in the area at a low enough level to allow the operation to proceed safely.
- (8) Simops plan in place.
- (9) Communication plan in place and checks conducted prior to operation initiation.
- (10) Enterprise RITT activity will suspend during the pumping of the kill fluid to prevent kill mud from entering into the rig based test equipment.
- (11) Expertise in place and rested at commencement of operations.
- (12) Eight ROVs in place to support the operation (6 primary and 2 backup).

At a high level, the operation execution order is:

- (1) Complete rig up and testing of all equipment necessary to execute the operation. Note that preparations for this activity have been ongoing for several weeks
- (2) Diagnostic Operations to validate Momentum Kill Design assumptions and status of equipment (well and Deepwater Horizon BOP).
- (3) Validation of the Momentum Kill Design with the Diagnostic Data.
- (4) Execution of the Momentum Kill Pumping Operation.
- (5) Execution of the Momentum Cementing Operation.
- (6) Removal of the Riser and LMRP from the top of the Deepwater Horizon BOP.
- (7) Installation of the Development Driller II BOP onto the Deepwater Horizon BOP (these last two steps are expected to take one week).

Key risks include:

- (1) Inability to pump into the wellbore at the rates required to kill the well.
- (2) Inability to establish rate down the well due to excess loss of fluid out the riser.
- (3) Further damage to or erosion of the BOP and/or riser which could increase the flow of oil from the well.
- (4) Broaching outside of the well to the seafloor.
- (5) Simops or station keeping event resulting in aborting the procedure and/or damage to a vessel(s).

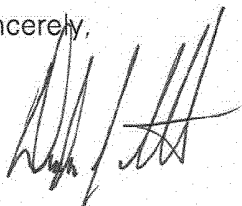
Contingency plans are in place for each of these risks. These plans are described in the attached flowchart.

In addition to the meeting held here at the UAC, there have been several meetings held at the Houston ICP with representatives of the United States Coast Guard, the Minerals Management Service, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Energy and other scientific advisors.

Approvals of the necessary procedures to execute the Top Kill Operation are progressing. It may be necessary, however, to amend the procedures during the operation. I ask that you delegate to a Coast Guard representative who is present in the BP Houston center the authority to approve these real time changes to procedures that the UAC has previously approved.

Please let me know if there is any additional information regarding the prerequisites, key decision points, and risks associated with the Top Kill Operation that you need to review before the operation commences.

Sincerely,



Douglas J. Suttles