From: Suttles, Doug J
Sent: Fri May 21 22:07:51 2010
To: Odone, Toby; Rinehart, Steve C; Wells, Kent; Gowers, Andrew R; Looney, Bernard; Auchincloss, Murray M
Subject: RE: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube
Importance: Normal

I've never stated the pumping rate. I'm fine with Ken's comment about the top kill rate.

Also note that the 5000 bopd with a wide uncertainty range was a rate agreed by NOAA, Coast Guard and BP very early in the spill. I notice on the bottom of this note we are saying this was a NOAA estimate. That is not correct and continues to create an issue with NOAA and the CG.

Doug

Doug Suttles
Chief Operating Officer
Exploration & Production
BP

From: Odone, Toby
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2010 4:41 PM
To: Rinehart, Steve C; Suttles, Doug J; Wells, Kent
Subject: RE: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube

Thanks Steve. Am ok with first question.

Doug can I just run my planned response to the second question below past you please?

Kent suggested I say: For the top kill procedure we are designing equipment to pump the highest kill rate we can, irrespective of the flow rate.

Is that ok with you?

And just to double check did you at some point talk about injecting at 40 barrels a minute?

From: Rinehart, Steve C
Sent: 21 May 2010 15:08
To: Odone, Toby
Subject: RE: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube

It's all about the difference btx rate and volume over time. Doug said clearly in the PC that the rate has at times been over 5,000, and at times much lower, but that the average over time has been about 2000 a day(leaving off the start-up period). A person can look at the video and see slugs (batches) of gas, then oil, so naturally the rate would vary.

Also: And Landry contradicted our press release, saying that the leak rate estimate will not be done by Saturday. (by my notes, she did say Saturday at the 7 a.m. briefing today.)

From: Odone, Toby
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2010 11:59 AM
To: Gowers, Andrew R; 'mufsons@washpost.com'; G Press Office; G US Press Office
Subject: RE: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube

Steve,

I will call you in a bit

Toby

From: Gowers, Andrew R
Sent: 21 May 2010 14:55
To: 'mufsons@washpost.com'; G Press Office; G US Press Office
Subject: Re: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube

Steve
I'm taking a day out so my colleagues in situ are going to have to answer this. Am copying your mail to them.
Andrew

Sent using BlackBerry

From: Steve J Mufson <mufsons@washpost.com>
To: Gowers, Andrew R
Sent: Fri May 21 20:51:38 2010
Subject: RE: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube

Andrew,
My colleague David Fahrenthold listened to the joint press conference today and tells me that Doug Suttles said that the actual rate of oil collected from the insertion tube is 2200 barrels of oil over 24 hours -- and

that BP never said it was gathering 5,000 barrels a day. So I'm a little confused. Can you help clear up this discrepancy?

Also, David said someone on the call asked a very good question: How does BP know how much drilling mud to inject if it doesn't know the flow rate of the well? I recall that Suttles said you could shoot 40 barrels a minute of mud into the well, which would be 57,600 barrels a day. I wouldn't expect a one to one ratio of mud to oil, but I would imagine that the mud is denser and heavier and if anything it would counterbalance even more oil.

Can you help clear this up?

Steve

"Gowers, Andrew R"
<Andrew.Gowers@bp.com>
05/20/2010 12:57 PM

To

"Steve J Mufson" <mufsons@washpost.com>

cc

Subject

RE: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube

The leak estimate issued by the unified command, based on NOAA's analysis has not changed – it was always made clear that this was a ball-park estimate. The leak at the end of the riser is estimated to represent 85 per cent of the total, and the smaller leak 15 per cent. On your final question, not to my knowledge.
Andrew

From: Steve J Mufson [mailto:mufsons@washpost.com]
Sent: 20 May 2010 17:51
To: Gowers, Andrew R
Subject: RE: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube

Do you have an estimate of how much of the total leak this represents now??
And do you have an estimate of the size of the large leak versus the small leak?
And has the small leak gotten any bigger as a result of the insertion tube?

"Gowers, Andrew R"
<Andrew.Gowers@bp.com>
05/20/2010 12:36 PM

To

"Steve J Mufson" <mufsons@washpost.com>

cc

Subject

RE: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube

I can confirm 5000 barrels a day of oil and 15 million cubic feet of gas. The gas is being flared, and the oil is just oil , no water

From: Steve J Mufson [mailto:mufsons@washpost.com]
Sent: 20 May 2010 17:07
To: Gowers, Andrew R
Subject: Seeking confirmation of 5,000 barrel a day figure for amount of oil being captured by new tube

Andrew,
Can you confirm please? Also the amount of natural gas being captured?
I assume all the gas being captured is being flared, yes?

And the 5,000 barrels a day does not include water, does it?
Steve