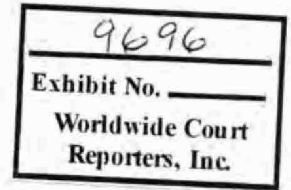


From: Verchere, Christina C [Christina.Verchere@bp.com] on behalf of Inglis, Andy G (UPSTREAM) [InglisAG@bp.com]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 7:14:31 PM
To: SCHU
CC: Hayes, David; McNutt, Marcla K; Hunter, Tom (Sandia); OConnor, Rod
Subject: RE: Deepwater Horizon slide pack - May 31st 2010



Mr Secretary,

I agree. There are two scenarios that could explain the observations from the Top Kill:

- a) collapse disk failure during the initial event;
- b) mud down the well to the reservoir with counter flow of oil/gas upwards.

In line with our approach not to make the situation worse, our forward actions are being governed by scenario "a". We will ensure our communications capture this.

Andy

-----Original Message-----

From: SCHU [mailto:SCHU@hq.doe.gov]
Sent: 31 May 2010 22:44
To: Inglis, Andy G (UPSTREAM); Hunter, Tom (Sandia); OConnor, Rod
Cc: david_hayes@ios.doi.gov; mcnuttt@usgs.gov
Subject: RE: Deepwater Horizon slide pack May 31st 2010

Andy,

Thanks for the slide pack.

We originally agreed that all communications from our science team and Lab scientists be funneled through Tom Hunter and myself. However, I should give you a heads up regarding communications of the possible state of the well. Trevor, Paul and Kent were just sent the following message:

Tom and Sheldon,

We should let BP as soon as possible that there is a modified scenario 2 (mud going down the well to the reservoir with counter flow of oil and gas upward) that is equally plausible without more detailed calculations. This can explain the fast appearance of oil and gas after pumping is stopped and also is a plausible reason of where the lion's share of the mud went during pumping.

This is important since we are asking BP to make available to the public the possibility that the rupture disk were blown in the accident.

Steve

Steven Chu
Department of Energy

-----Original Message-----

From: Inglis, Andy G (UPSTREAM) [mailto:InglisAG@bp.com]
Sent: Monday, May 31, 2010 1:26 PM
To: SCHU
Cc: david_hayes@ios.doi.gov; mcnuttt@usgs.gov; lars.herbst@mms.gov
Subject: Deepwater Horizon slide pack - May 31st 2010

<<Secretary Salazar May 31 2010_final.pdf>>

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> Secretary Chu,
>
> This is the pack we shared with Secretary Salazar today.
>
> Best regards
>
> Andy
>

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TREX 009696.0002