

Suttles US PiC

Suttles, Doug 05-19-2011
Suttles, Doug 05-20-2011

Used in Montage 00:10:05

Total Time 00:10:05



22:23 - 23:22

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V206.1

22:23 Q. And from January 1, 2009, up
 22:24 through and including the date of the sinking
 22:25 of the DEEPWATER HORIZON on April the 22nd
 23:1 you were the chief operating officer for BP
 23:2 Exploration & Production; is that right?
 23:3 A. Yes, that was my title, yes.
 23:4 Q. Now, as I understand it, since
 23:5 then the chief executive officer of BP, PLC,
 23:6 Tony Hayward, has been replaced; is that
 23:7 right?
 23:8 A. Tony has left the company, yes.
 23:9 Q. All right. The chief executive
 23:10 officer of BP Exploration & Production, Andy
 23:11 Inglis, has left the company?
 23:12 A. That's correct.
 23:13 Q. And you as the chief operating
 23:14 officer of BP Exploration & Production have
 23:15 left the company?
 23:16 A. I retired at the end of March,
 23:17 yes.
 23:18 Q. Okay. And I just wanted to ask
 23:19 you: At the time that you retired, you were
 23:20 the ripe old age of 50 years old; is that
 23:21 right?

23:22 A. Yes, I was.

495:17 - 497:4

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V206.2

495:17 Q. Okay. Now, we'll go back to
 495:18 your time at BP as -- your -- your -- your
 495:19 official title after April 20th was senior
 495:20 representative in the Unified Area Command;
 495:21 is that right? Does that sound right?
 495:22 A. Well, I was BP's representative
 495:23 on -- on Unified Area Command. I don't know
 495:24 that we gave it a -- I don't recall it having
 495:25 a specific title. I was -- I was just the BP
 496:1 representative at -- the member of the
 496:2 Unified Area Command.
 496:3 Q. You -- you were the senior-most
 496:4 BP official?

496:5 A. I was the senior -- I was the
 496:6 Unified Area commander from BP.
 496:7 Q. Okay.
 496:8 A. That was my job.
 496:9 Q. How were you selected to be the
 496:10 Unified Area representative for BP?
 496:11 A. Well, before when they -- the --
 496:12 the spill first happened and I got -- or the
 496:13 accident first happened, I -- I went into the
 496:14 BP office. And on the morning of April 21st,
 496:15 Tony Hayward spoke with me and -- as he and
 496:16 Andy Inglis were in London at the time and
 496:17 asked if I could lead the response. Then
 496:18 after Admiral Landry called me and said that
 496:19 she was -- she was activating Unified Area
 496:20 Command, I had a discussion, if I recall
 496:21 correctly, with Andy Inglis about who was the
 496:22 best -- at that point I had deployed Dave
 496:23 Rainey before then to New Orleans to Admiral
 496:24 Landry's office here.
 496:25 And at that point we had
 497:1 discussion would it -- who would be the best
 497:2 person to do that job, and given my
 497:3 experience, the decision was made that I
 497:4 should -- I should take that role.

547:10 - 547:21

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V206.3

547:10 Q. Okay. Now -- and prior -- I'm
 547:11 going to be focusing on -- on the time around
 547:12 April 20, 2011, perhaps some after that.
 547:13 But during the period January 1,
 547:14 2000 -- excuse me -- 2010 through, say,
 547:15 April 30 of 2010, you were the chief
 547:16 operating officer or COO of which company?
 547:17 A. I -- of BP Exploration &
 547:18 Production, the -- the actual -- I believe my
 547:19 paycheck came from BP North America, but --
 547:20 Q. Okay.

548:2 - 549:24

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V206.4

548:2 A. Could you repeat the question?

548:3 EXAMINATION BY MR. GODWIN:

548:4 Q. I'll be happy to, sir. I want
548:5 to establish who it was that you worked for
548:6 insofar as your title as COO of E&P. And
548:7 that stands for Exploration & Production,
548:8 does it not?

548:9 A. That's correct.

548:10 Q. Okay. Which company were you
548:11 the chief operating officer of prior to the
548:12 time that you retired on March 31, 2011?

548:13 A. The -- the organizational
548:14 structure of BP Group had what we refer to as
548:15 two major segments: One was Exploration &
548:16 Production and the other was Refining &
548:17 Marketing. Then it had a -- a third element
548:18 which was the other businesses, things like
548:19 alternative energy.

548:20 Q. What I'm after, just the name of
548:21 the company, sir. I'll go into, if I need,
548:22 how they were divided up and what they did.
548:23 I just want to know: The company that you
548:24 were the chief operating officer of for E&P,
548:25 what was the name of that company up to the
549:1 time that you retired?

549:2 A. Okay. I'm -- I'm trying to do
549:3 my best to answer that.

549:4 Q. I don't need you to name --
549:5 answer it except give me the name of a
549:6 company is all I need, sir. I'm trying to
549:7 get through it. I have a -- I'm limited in
549:8 my time.

549:9 A. Okay.

549:10 Q. I just need the name of a
549:11 company, please.

549:12 A. Well, my paycheck came from, I
549:13 believe, BP North America, Inc., but I -- my
549:14 role involved -- I reported to the chief
549:15 executive officer of Exploration &
549:16 Production.

549:17 Q. And -- and who was that, sir?

549:18 A. Andy Inglis.
 549:19 Q. Mr. Inglis. Okay.
 549:20 And are you able to tell us here
 549:21 today the name of the company that you were
 549:22 the COO, the chief operating officer, of
 549:23 prior to the time you retired on -- on
 549:24 March 31, 2011?

550:3 - 551:23

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V206.5

550:3 Q. Go ahead, sir.
 550:4 A. Yes. I -- and I am trying to do
 550:5 my best to answer your question. I -- the --
 550:6 the corporate structure of the company
 550:7 involved a number of subsidiaries around the
 550:8 world which I had some responsibility and
 550:9 relationship to, so I -- I actually don't
 550:10 know how to answer your question other
 550:11 than --
 550:12 Q. Okay.
 550:13 A. -- to tell you --
 550:14 Q. Okay. Let -- let me rephrase
 550:15 it, then.
 550:16 I understand the company, BP, is
 550:17 divided -- the main primary company in London
 550:18 is divided into companies around the world.
 550:19 And I'm talking about Doug Suttles who was
 550:20 the COO for earning -- or E&P earnings --
 550:21 Exploration & Production.
 550:22 A. Uh-huh.
 550:23 Q. I simply want to know the name
 550:24 of the company that you were the chief
 550:25 operating officer of. I'm not interested in
 551:1 sales and marketing or legal or any other
 551:2 aspect of the company. I want to know the
 551:3 company that you believe you were the COO of,
 551:4 if you know.
 551:5 A. I'm sorry. I -- I -- I can't
 551:6 answer your question. I -- I just don't know
 551:7 the --
 551:8 Q. Okay.
 551:9 A. -- answer to that.

551:10 Q. All right. And -- okay. And I
551:11 believe you said that you reported prior to
551:12 your retirement while you were the COO in
551:13 most recent times to Mr. Andy Inglis,
551:14 correct?

551:15 A. That's correct, yes.

551:16 Q. And -- and tell us, if you will,
551:17 please, he was the CEO?

551:18 A. He -- his -- his title -- at
551:19 least my understanding of his title was the
551:20 chief executive officer of Exploration &
551:21 Production.

551:22 Q. Okay. Of -- of Exploration &
551:23 Production of which company?

552:2 - 552:2

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V206.6

552:2 Q. Is that a company?

552:5 - 552:8

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V206.7

552:5 A. It's not -- I mean, I don't
552:6 know -- I don't know the -- the legal entity
552:7 status. I'm sorry.

552:8 EXAMINATION BY MR. GODWIN

552:20 - 556:1

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V206.8

552:20 Q. Okay, sir. Do you know the name
552:21 of the company that as of April 20, 2010,
552:22 Mr. Andy Inglis was the CEO of?

552:23 A. He -- all -- what I understood
552:24 was he was the chief executive officer for
552:25 Exploration & Production and those activities
553:1 across the company. I do not know -- I do
553:2 not believe that was structured under one
553:3 legal entity.

553:4 Q. Okay, sir. And -- and as of
553:5 April 20, 2010, to whom did Mr. Andy Inglis
553:6 report, if you know?

553:7 A. My understanding is his boss was
553:8 Tony Hayward who is the chief executive
553:9 officer of the BP Group.

553:10 Q. Okay. And did you at any time
553:11 in the 2010 time frame report direct to Tony
553:12 Hayward on any matters?

553:13 A. Not to my knowledge, no.
553:14 Q. Okay. Because after the event
553:15 on April 20, I understand you were in charge
553:16 of the response effort?
553:17 A. My role was --
553:18 Q. Is that correct, sir?
553:19 A. Well, there were -- there were
553:20 two roles I played. Tony Hayward on the 21st
553:21 of April asked me to lead BP's group crisis
553:22 response initially because --
553:23 Q. Right.
553:24 A. -- because he and Andy Inglis
553:25 were in London at the time. And then a day
554:1 or two later, I was asked to be BP's member
554:2 of Unified Area Command, which put me as the
554:3 senior BP person inside of the Unified Area
554:4 Command spill response.
554:5 Q. Okay. Now, in those two roles
554:6 that you played that you were requested to do
554:7 by Mr. Tony Hayward, to whom did you report?
554:8 A. Internally within BP I consulted
554:9 on -- Tony granted me authority -- BP
554:10 authority to make the decisions I needed to
554:11 make inside of that role. It's a difficult
554:12 question to answer because I didn't think of
554:13 it in that way.
554:14 I would consult with Tony
554:15 Hayward on issues, with Andy Inglis on
554:16 issues, and with Bob Dudley on issues amongst
554:17 many others, but I --
554:18 Q. Okay.
554:19 A. -- I didn't -- I didn't --
554:20 they -- they didn't put constraints on me
554:21 which required me to go back to them to take
554:22 decisions.
554:23 Q. Okay. So in terms of, though,
554:24 in the corporate hierarchy --
554:25 A. Yes.
555:1 Q. -- as of April 21, 2010, and up
555:2 until the -- up until the time when you no

555:3 longer were involved with the HORIZON --
 555:4 A. Right.
 555:5 Q. -- well -- HORIZON matters, I
 555:6 understand you were in charge as -- as
 555:7 delegated to you by Mr. Tony Hayward,
 555:8 correct, with the response effort?
 555:9 A. Yes, he -- well, he spoke with
 555:10 me about -- he's the person who asked me to
 555:11 lead -- initially lead BP through crisis
 555:12 response. It was Andy Inglis, I believe, who
 555:13 asked me to be the Unified Area commander for
 555:14 BP.
 555:15 Q. Okay, sir. And -- and as I
 555:16 understand it, during the time that you were
 555:17 in those two roles you've just named, you
 555:18 would consult direct with Tony Hayward from
 555:19 time to time as -- as the necessity arose?
 555:20 A. Yes, I did on -- on a number of
 555:21 occasions.
 555:22 Q. And you would also consult
 555:23 direct with Mr. Andy Inglis as needed as the
 555:24 occasion arose after you were put into those
 555:25 two positions as of April 20, 2010?
 556:1 A. That's correct.

817:4 - 817:21

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V206.9

817:4 Is this the company you worked
 817:5 for, BP Exploration & Production, Inc.?
 817:6 A. As -- as I described earlier, I
 817:7 worked for the organizational entity called
 817:8 BP Exploration & Production. I'm just not
 817:9 familiar with the -- the -- the legal entity
 817:10 structure.
 817:11 Q. Well, is there an organization
 817:12 called the BP Exploration & Production and a
 817:13 company called BP Exploration & Production,
 817:14 Inc.?
 817:15 A. The -- the -- the organizational
 817:16 unit that -- that looks after BP's
 817:17 exploration and production activities
 817:18 globally is called BP Exploration &

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817:19 Production. There are a huge number of legal
817:20 entities, and I would assume this is one of
817:21 those.

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