

Deposition Testimony of:

Michael Saucier

Date: July 27, 2011

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Page 1:20 to 1:22

00001:20 Deposition of MICHAEL SAUCIER, taken at
21 the Hilton Hotel, 333 St. Charles Avenue, New
21 Orleans, Louisiana, 70130, on the 27th day of
22 July, 2011.

Page 8:01 to 8:16

00008:01 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are on the
02 record. This is the 30(b)(6) deposition of
03 Michael Saucier in regards to the oil spill of the
04 DEEPWATER HORIZON in the Gulf of Mexico on
05 April 20th, 2010.
06 Today's date is July 27th, 2011; and
07 the time on the monitor is 8:35 a.m. This is the
08 beginning of Tape 1.
09 Will the court reporter please swear
10 in the witness?
11 (Witness sworn.)
12 MR. FLYNN: Before we start, I just
13 wanted to point out that Mr. Saucier is being
14 produced in his individual capacity as well as a
15 30(b)(6) witness for two categories of BP's
16 30(b)(6) deposition notice.

Page 10:17 to 10:23

00010:17 Q. Now, let me just get a little bit of
18 information about your background. Will you
19 please tell us about your educational background?
20 A. I have a Bachelor of Science degree I
21 received from LSU in 1984.
22 Q. And is that your entire formal education?
23 A. Yes. And that's in petroleum engineering.

Page 11:07 to 11:25

00011:07 Q. And what did you do after graduating in
08 1984?
09 A. Went to work for the then Minerals
10 Management Service and took a position in the
11 Houma District.
12 Q. And what -- what was your job when you
13 started there?
14 A. A staff engineer in the Houma District.
15 Q. And as a staff engineer, what were your
16 responsibilities?
17 A. Helping other engineers review permits and
18 kind of learning, at that point, the processes.
19 Q. How long did you work as a staff engineer
20 with MMS?
21 A. From '84 until '88.
22 Q. And, by the way, MMS is the Minerals

23 Management Service of the Department of Interior
24 of the United States of America, correct?
25 A. That is correct.

Page 12:03 to 12:13

00012:03 Q. And is -- it's a name change, but also
04 there was an evolution of -- of splitting out of
05 some of the responsibilities, as I appreciate it,
06 correct?
07 A. Well, I guess MMS changed to the Bureau
08 of -- B-O-E-M-R-E, and then the royalty part of
09 MMS was split out. The rest of MMS stayed in
10 B-O-E-M-R-E.
11 Q. So you -- you work for -- we've been
12 calling it "BOEMRE." Is that what --
13 A. Yes.

Page 12:17 to 13:05

00012:17 Q. But between 1984 and, say -- was it 2010
18 that the name changed?
19 A. Correct.
20 Q. -- you worked for MMS, correct?
21 A. That is correct.
22 Q. Okay. Now -- I'm sorry. How long again
23 did you work as a staff engineer?
24 A. Until 1988.
25 Q. And in your capacity of -- you say you
00013:01 were reviewing permits. What did you do in those
02 days in the context of reviewing permits?
03 A. I looked at drilling permits. I looked at
04 workover permits and production safety system
05 permits.

Page 13:18 to 14:05

00013:18 Q. Did you do only drilling permits?
19 A. No, sir. Also workover permits and
20 production safety system permits.
21 Q. Okay. Now, did you ever work as a
22 drilling inspector?
23 A. Well, as -- as an engineer in the
24 district, you would go out on inspections with the
25 inspectors but not officially called a drilling
00014:01 inspector; but you're still an engineer.
02 Q. Now, was that as part of your
03 responsibility, or was -- or was it more or less
04 part of training?
05 A. Part of training.

Page 145:18 to 146:11

00145:18 Q. Okay. I want to start with just a little
19 bit more about your background. You were
20 appointed as the deputy to Lars Herbst --
21 Herbst -- is that correct? -- for the Unified
22 Command.
23 A. That is correct.
24 Q. Okay. If you turn to Tab 5 in this
25 binder, it's an exhibit that's been previously
00146:01 marked as 2427.
02 And on this Organization Chart, it
03 shows you as the -- the Unified Area Command
04 representative for the MMS; is that correct?
05 A. That's what it shows.
06 Q. And were you still the deputy to Lars
07 as -- as of the date of this Organization Chart?
08 A. Yes.
09 Q. And where would Lars be on this
10 Organization Chart?
11 A. He should be where my name is.

Page 148:04 to 148:10

00148:04 Q. And you worked on the relief well
05 operations as part of your role at the Unified
06 Area Command?
07 A. I kept up with it.
08 Q. Kept up with them? You were aware of the
09 relief well operations?
10 A. Yes.