

SCHLUMBERGER//  
NORTH AMERICAN WIRELINE SERVICES  
5000 GULF FREEWAY, P. O. BOX 2175  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77252-2175, (713) 928-4000

December 9, 1982

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region IV  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive  
Suite 1000  
Arlington, TX 76012

Gentlemen:

This is to follow up my telephone conversations of October 21, 1982 with Mr. Chuck Hooker and October 28, 1982 with Mr. Chuck Cain, and to report a fire on an offshore platform on which some radioactive sources were present.

On October 21, 1982 there was a blow out and fire on a well being drilled on the offshore platform described below:

Noble No. 24  
Eugene Block 361  
120 miles off Morgan City, LA  
Drilling for Chevron

At the time of the blow out, Schlumberger had a crew and equipment on the platform waiting to log. The equipment included two 1.5 curie Cesium 137 sealed sources (GSR-J-6411 and GSR-J-6449), one 16 curie AmBe sealed source (NSR-F-A1391), two 0.5 curie AmBe sealed calibration sources (NSR-GB-3349 and NSR-GB-3287) and one 1.5  $\mu$ ci Th 232 calibration source (GSR-U-112).

When the well blew out, fortunately it did not catch fire immediately. Thus, all personnel were able to disembark without injury.

Schlumberger notified Chevron, Noble and Boots & Coots, Inc. (oil well fire fighters and blow out specialists) of the presence of radioactive sources on the rig. We also notified the NRC and the Louisiana Nuclear Energy Division.

The fire burned until October 24. On that day I was notified the fire was out and that I would be leaving Morgan City the morning of October 25th to go to the well, which I did.

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NMS LIC30

PDR

IE-07

On October 25th I arrived at the site and at approximately 2:30 p.m. I went up on the platform to survey and rope off restriction areas. I did several wipe tests on the source containers and surrounding area. These checked clean with the portable detection equipment I had with me. The wipes were immediately sent to Nuclear Sources & Services, Inc. (NSSI) in Houston for assay. The assays showed no contamination. I roped off all areas exceeding 2 mr/hr.

On October 27th we were able to get on the platform again. (During the interviewing period, relocating the crane barge and bringing in a rig to drill a relief well had prevented getting on the platform.) By this time we had obtained a freight barge to work on, TLD badges for the Boots & Coots employees (2), 7A drums, spare shields, etc.

With the assistance of the Boots & Coots team, we moved (by crane) the two boxes containing sources from the platform to the freight barge. (The well was still blowing gas and rocks, so the freight barge was a safer and less noisy place to work.) After the boxes were removed, I did a survey of the platform using a 1"x1" scintillation crystal. I also performed wipe test of the areas where the boxes had been. No contamination was found.

On the freight barge, the sources were prepared for transportation. The 1.5 curie Cesium 137 sources and the 16 curie AmBe source were put in new transport shields. The 0.5 curie AmBe sources were left on the destroyed transport shield, and over packed in a 55 gallon, 7A drum, braced in place with sand bags and the drum filled with water.

The 1.5  $\mu$ ci Th 232 source is manufactured of natural sand held in a soft plastic sheet. The plastic was destroyed by the fire, leaving a pile of sand in the water-filled transportation box.

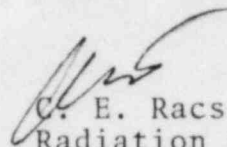
The sources in shields or in the 7A drum and the sand in the transport box, were all carried back to Morgan City by a work boat. I accompanied them on the boat. At the boat dock the material was lifted by crane to a Schlumberger truck. I surveyed the freight barge and the work boat after the material was unloaded. No contamination was found.

USNRC  
Noble No. 24 Fire  
December 9, 1982  
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With the approval of the Louisiana Nuclear Energy Division, we disposed of the sand on our property at Morgan City. The sealed sources were transported to NSSI, Houston. The sources were removed from the transport packages, wipe tested and stored. The wipe tests showed no leakage. The sources will be disposed by NSSI.

Attached are the TLD badge reports for the four people involved in the source recovery operation. Elkins and Racster are Schlumberger employees and routinely badged. Campbell and Barnes are employed by Boots & Coots, Inc.-Houston. We are quite pleased that the operation was completed with no contamination and such low personnel exposure.

Sincerely,



C. E. Racster  
Radiation Safety Officer

CER/md  
Attachments

cc: Louisiana Nuclear Energy Division  
USNRC - Washington, D.C.

SCHLUMBERGER OFFSHORE SERVICES  
 P.O. DRAWER 191  
 MORGAN CITY, LA 70360



CURRENT TLD OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION EXPOSURE REPORT  
 APPROVED FOR USE IN LIEU OF A.E.C. FORM 5

CUSTOMER NO. 2602  
 DATE 10/20/82  
 SIGNED *[Signature]*

FOURTH QTR 1982 EARLY RETURN BADGES INDEX

BADGE NO.	NAME	SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	TYPE SERVICE	DATE OF BADGE ISSUE	DATE OF BADGE RETURN	DOSE FOR PERIOD (mrem)			ACCUMULATED DOSE (mrem) FOR CAL. QTR.			PERMISSIBLE M.D. (mrem)	
						GAMMA	BETA*	NEUTRON	WHOLE BODY	SKIN	EXTREMITY	CALCULATED QTR	CALCULATED YR
						WHOLE BODY	SKIN	EXTREMITY	WHOLE BODY	SKIN	EXTREMITY	ACTUAL	PERMISSIBLE
5455	BARNES, A.		N	10/01/82		21	0	41	52	52	0	1250	5000
			Q	10/28/82		62	62	0	62	62	0	0.06	0
5472	CAMPBELL, P.		N	10/01/82		0	0	22	22	22	0	1250	5000
			Q	10/28/82		22	22	0	22	22	0	0.02	0
5530	ELKINS, H.	417-78-8346	N	10/01/82		22	0	38	60	60	0	1250	5000
		12/04/53, 29	Q	10/28/82		60	60	0	60	60	0	0.06	55
LABORATORY CONTROL USED													

"TYPE SERVICE" CODES  
 T - GAMMA BADGE (BGX)  
 R - RING BADGE  
 J - ANKLE BADGE  
 K - WRIST BADGE  
 N - NEUTRON BADGE (GN)  
 B - BETA-GAMMA

"FREQUENCY" CODES  
 S - SPECIAL  
 B - BIWEEKLY  
 M - MONTHLY  
 P - BIMONTHLY  
 Q - QUARTERLY  
 Y - YEARLY

NOTE CODES - SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INTERPRETATION  
 \* BETA INCLUDES NON-PENETRATING X-RAYS

BILLING COPY

NUCLEAR SOURCES & SERVICES INC.  
 P. O. BOX 34042  
 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77034  
 A/C 713 641-0391

SCHLUMBERGER WELL SERVICES-SAFETY  
 P.O. BOX 2175  
 HOUSTON, TX 77001  
 ATTEN: C. RACSTER  
 FOURTH QTR 1982 EARLY RETURN BADGES: NORM



CURRENT TLD OCCUPATIONAL RADIATION EXPOSURE REPORT  
 APPROVED FOR USE IN LIEU OF A EC FORM 8

CUSTOMER NO. 9870 PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DATE 10/28/82 SIGNED *[Signature]*

BADGE NO.	NAME	SOCIAL SECURITY NO.		TYPE SERVICE	DATE OF BADGE ISSUE	DATE OF BADGE RETURN	DOSE FOR PERIOD (mrem)			ACCUMULATED DOSE (mrem) FOR CAL. QTR.			PERMISSIBLE W.B. DOSE (mrem)		
		BIRTH DATE	AGE (YRS)				FREQ.	GAMMA	BETA*	NEUTRON	WHOLE BODY	SKIN	EXTREMITY	CALENDAR QTR	CALENDAR YR
								WHOLE BODY	SKIN	EXTREMITY	WHOLE BODY	SKIN	EXTREMITY	ACTUAL	PERMISSIBLE
33891	RACSTER, C.	361-14-4048		N	10/01/82		21	0	16	38	38	0	1250	5000	
		05/02/26, 56		Q	10/28/82		38	38	0	145	145	0	1.56	190	
LABORATORY CONTROL USED															

"TYPE SERVICE" CODES

- T - GAMMA BADGE (BGX)
- H - RING BADGE
- J - ANKLE BADGE
- K - WRIST BADGE
- N - NEUTRON BADGE (GN)
- S - BETA-GAMMA

"FREQUENCY" CODES

- S - SPECIAL
- B - BIWEEKLY
- M - MONTHLY
- F - BIMONTHLY
- Q - QUARTERLY
- Y - YEARLY

NOTE CODES - SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR INTERPRETATION  
 \* BETA INCLUDES NON-PENETRATING X-RAYS

CUSTOMER COPY-ORIGINAL

NUCLEAR SOURCES & SERVICES INC.

P. O. BOX 34042  
 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77034  
 A/C 713 641-0391

**Schlumberger**

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NORTH AMERICA WIRELINE SERVICES  
5000 GULF FREEWAY, P.O. BOX 2175  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77252-2175, (713) 928-4000

December 9, 1982

Boots & Coots, Inc.  
126 Northpoint Drive  
Suite 100  
Houston, TX 77060

Gentlemen:

Two of your employees assisted in the removal of radioactive sources from the Noble 24 platform on October 25-27, 1982. Monitoring badges were issued to your employees for the period they worked in the area of radiation.

Analysis of the badges showed:


-Barnes, A.           62 millirem total  
-Campbell, P.       22 millirem total

No contamination was found (nor was it expected).

To put the 22 and 62 millirem received by your employees in perspective, it is generally accepted that a routine chest x-ray exposes the person to roughly 100 millirem. Thus, the exposure of your employees was some fraction of a routine chest x-ray and well within the regulatory limits set by the NRC.

I appreciate the cooperation we received by Pat and Ace. They were a good team to work with.

Sincerely,

  
E. Racster  
Radiation Safety Officer

CER/md  
cc: USNRC

## LICENSEE REPORT EVALUATION

LICENSEE: SchlumbergerASSIGNED TO: CAINLIC. No.: 42 - 00090 - 03DATE: 12/22/82REPORT TYPE: 20.405REPORT DATE: 12/9/82

## COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

This 20.405 report documents the immediate notification made to this office on 10/28/82 by telephone.

There is no further action necessary on the reported incident.

Although the report is sufficiently thorough, it is 11 days overdue since 20.405 requires a written report within 30 days of the immediate notification on 10/28/82.

APPROVED BY: JewettDATE: 12/28/82PREPARED BY: CZ CainDATE: 12/28/82