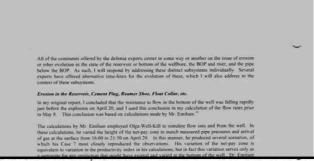
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was underway. We know with some certainty, for example, that the 5-inch pipe extending above the upper annular of the BOP was severely eroded, perforated, and failed completely within 36 hours from the start of the blowout. This did not occur in weeks or months, it occurred in a matter of hours. Because flow rates are the same throughout the system, I therefore believe that erosion in the reservoir, cement plug, reamer shoe, and/or the float collar would have occurred on a comparable time scale, hours or a few days — not weeks, and this view is consistent with Mr. Emilsen's calculations.

of this increase is consistent with the pace at which other similar events were unfolding once the blowout was undersay. We know with some certainty, for example, that the 4-titch pipe extending above the many control of the contro