

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Federal On-Scene Coordinator  
Unified Area Command

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16451  
June 19, 2010

Doug Suttles  
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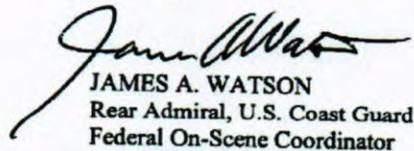
At my direction, on June 13 you submitted an updated and accelerated plan to expand collection capacity and bring redundant collection capacity online. As part of this plan, this week you began additional oil collection through the Q4000. While this was an important step, the visible amount of hydrocarbons that continue to escape from the top of the well clearly indicate additional containment is urgently required.

I also understand that work continues to ready the vessels—Toisa Pisces and the Helix Producer—for collection, and that new options to replace the existing top hat are being designed and fabricated. These efforts must be advanced as expeditiously as possible, but they must also build on the knowledge we have gained during previous efforts. For example, the ability to measure pressure and flow accurately at multiple points on the BOP is essential in the effort to develop mitigation strategies. Earlier containment strategies have not been built with the necessary level of instrumentation.

Therefore, I am directing the following:

1. BP will provide me with a timeline delineating upcoming decision points relating to the Macondo well and BP's plans to arrest its flow. This will include a path forward for the expedited deployment of the next phases of containment, including detailing the new resources that others in the industry have made available and how those resources will be utilized.
2. Before BP executes upon any decision relating to final design, manufacturing, or operational procedures concerning subsea collection devices at the Macondo well, BP will submit the pending decision including conceptual drawings detailing the capabilities and limitations of the equipment or procedures for review. Additionally, completed detailed design drawings for subsea collection devices must be submitted for review. BP will also produce all plans (where fabrication has not been initiated) for potential top hat, manifolds and other instrumentation additions and replacements within 48 hours, and these plans must be approved before the replacements are manufactured. These plans will indicate how the instrumentation will be incorporated into each system prior to completing fabrication.

Sincerely,

  
JAMES A. WATSON  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard  
Federal On-Scene Coordinator



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