Ocean Energy Bureau, Interior

§ 254.46 Whom do I notify if an oil spill occurs?

(a) You must immediately notify the National Response Center (1–800–424–8802) if you observe:
   (1) An oil spill from your facility;
   (2) An oil spill from another offshore facility; or
   (3) An offshore spill of unknown origin.

(b) In the event of a spill of 1 barrel or more from your facility, you must orally notify the Regional Supervisor without delay. You also must report spills from your facility of unknown size but thought to be 1 barrel or more.

   (1) If a spill from your facility not originally reported to the Regional Supervisor is subsequently found to be 1 barrel or more, you must then report it without delay.

   (2) You must file a written followup report for any spill from your facility of 1 barrel or more. The Regional Supervisor must receive this confirmation within 15 days after the spillage has been stopped. All reports must include the cause, location, volume, and remedial action taken. Reports of spills of more than 50 barrels must include information on the sea state, meteorological conditions, and the size and appearance of the slick. The Regional Supervisor may require additional information if it is determined that an analysis of the response is necessary.

   (c) If you observe a spill resulting from operations at another offshore facility, you must immediately notify the responsible party and the Regional Supervisor.

§ 254.47 Determining the volume of oil of your worst case discharge scenario.

You must calculate the volume of oil of your worst case discharge scenario as follows:

(a) For an oil production platform facility, the size of your worst case discharge scenario is the sum of the following:

   (1) The maximum capacity of all oil storage tanks and flow lines on the facility. Flow line volume may be estimated; and
   (2) The volume of oil calculated to leak from a break in any pipelines connected to the facility considering shut-down time, the effect of hydrostatic pressure, gravity, frictional wall forces and other factors; and
   (3) The daily production volume from an uncontrolled blowout of the highest capacity well associated with the facility. In determining the daily discharge rate, you must consider reservoir characteristics, casing/production tubing sizes, and historical production and reservoir pressure data. Your scenario must discuss how to respond to this well flowing for 30 days as required by § 254.26(d)(1).

   (b) For exploratory or development drilling operations, the size of your worst case discharge scenario is the daily volume possible from an uncontrolled blowout. In determining the daily discharge rate, you must consider any known reservoir characteristics. If reservoir characteristics are unknown, you must consider the characteristics of any analog reservoirs from the area and give an explanation for the selection of the reservoir(s) used. Your scenario must discuss how to respond to this well flowing for 30 days as required by § 254.26(d)(1).

   (c) For a pipeline facility, the size of your worst case discharge scenario is the volume possible from a pipeline break. You must calculate this volume as follows:

      (1) Add the pipeline system leak detection time to the shutdown response time.
      (2) Multiply the time calculated in paragraph (c)(1) of this section by the highest measured oil flow rate over the preceding 12-month period. For new pipelines, you should use the predicted oil flow rate in the calculation.
      (3) Add to the volume calculated in paragraph (c)(2) of this section the total volume of oil that would leak from the pipeline after it is shut in. Calculate this volume by taking into account the effects of hydrostatic pressure, gravity, frictional wall forces, length of pipeline segment, tie-ins with other pipelines, and other factors.
§ 254.50 Spill response plans for facilities located in State waters seaward of the coast line.

Owners or operators of facilities located in State waters seaward of the coast line must submit a spill-response plan to MMS for approval. You may choose one of three methods to comply with this requirement. The three methods are described in §§254.51, 254.52, and 254.53.

§ 254.51 Modifying an existing OCS response plan.

You may modify an existing response plan covering a lease or facility on the OCS to include a lease or facility in State waters located seaward of the coast line. Since this plan would cover more than one lease or facility, it would be considered a Regional Response Plan. You should refer to §254.3 and contact the appropriate regional MMS office if you have any questions on how to prepare this Regional Response Plan.

§ 254.52 Following the format for an OCS response plan.

You may develop a response plan following the requirements for plans for OCS facilities found in subpart B of this part.

§ 254.53 Submitting a response plan developed under State requirements.

(a) You may submit a response plan to MMS for approval that you developed in accordance with the laws or regulations of the appropriate State. The plan must contain all the elements the State and OPA require and must:

(1) Be consistent with the requirements of the National Contingency Plan and appropriate Area Contingency Plan(s).

(2) Identify a qualified individual and require immediate communication between that person and appropriate Federal officials and response personnel if there is a spill.

(3) Identify any private personnel and equipment necessary to remove, to the maximum extent practicable, a worst case discharge as defined in §254.47. The plan must provide proof of contractual services or other evidence of a contractual agreement with any OSRO’s or spill management team members who are not employees of the owner or operator.

(4) Describe the training, equipment testing, periodic unannounced drills, and response actions of personnel at the facility. These must ensure both the safety of the facility and the mitigation or prevention of a discharge or the substantial threat of a discharge.

(5) Describe the procedures you will use to periodically update and resubmit the plan for approval of each significant change.

(b) Your plan developed under State requirements also must include the following information:

(1) A list of the facilities and leases the plan covers and a map showing their location;

(2) A list of the types of oil handled, stored, or transported at the facility;

(3) Name and address of the State agency to whom the plan was submitted;

(4) Date you submitted the plan to the State;

(5) If the plan received formal approval, the name of the approving organization, the date of approval, and a copy of the State agency’s approval letter if one was issued; and

(6) Identification of any regulations or standards used in preparing the plan.

§ 254.54 Spill prevention for facilities located in State waters seaward of the coast line.

In addition to your response plan, you must submit to the Regional Supervisor a description of the steps you are taking to prevent spills of oil or mitigate a substantial threat of such a discharge. You must identify all State