

RECEIVED
U.S. DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

2013 JAN -3 AM 10:42

LORETTA G. WHYTE
CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

INFORMATION FOR CLEAN WATER ACT VIOLATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*

CRIMINAL NO.

13-001

v.

*

SECTION:

SECT. H MAG. 1

TRANSOCEAN DEEPWATER INC.

*

VIOLATIONS: 33 U.S.C. § 1319(c)(1)(A)
33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(3)

*

* * *

COUNT ONE
(Clean Water Act Violation)

THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CHARGES THAT:

At all times relevant to this Information:

1. Defendant TRANSOCEAN DEEPWATER INC. (“defendant TRANSOCEAN”), headquartered in Houston, Texas, was a wholly-owned subsidiary of Transocean Ltd., a multinational corporation which provided well drilling and other services to energy companies (collectively “Transocean”). Defendant TRANSOCEAN resided in, and engaged in regular business throughout,

the states bordering the Gulf of Mexico, including in the Eastern District of Louisiana, and employed hundreds of people in those states.

2. On or about May 2, 2008, BP entered into a lease with the Minerals Management Service (“MMS”), granting BP the rights to oil and natural gas reservoirs at a site called Mississippi Canyon # 252 (“MC # 252”) on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Gulf of Mexico. The first well drilled by BP at MC # 252, which BP referred to as the Macondo well, lay approximately 48 miles from the Louisiana shoreline. The seabed in that area was approximately 5,000 feet below sea level, and the series of potential oil and natural gas reservoirs was located more than 13,000 feet below the seabed.

3. An affiliate of defendant TRANSOCEAN was contracted to provide BP with a mobile offshore drilling unit and crew employed by defendant TRANSOCEAN to implement BP’s drilling plan for the Macondo well. Defendant TRANSOCEAN, along with BP, had a duty to maintain well control. Entailed in this duty were responsibilities related to conducting safe drilling and rig operations, ensuring the safety of personnel onboard and preventing accidents which could impact the environment.

4. On or about and between April 20, 2010 and July 15, 2010, both dates being approximate and inclusive, in the Eastern District of Louisiana and elsewhere, defendant

TRANSOCEAN DEEPWATER INC.,

together with others, did negligently discharge and cause to be discharged oil in connection with activities under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and which affected natural resources

belonging to, appertaining to, and under the exclusive management authority of the United States, in such quantities as may be and were in fact harmful.

All in violation of Title 33, United States Code, Sections 1319(c)(1)(A) and 1321(b)(3).

DANA BOENTE
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA


RICHARD R. PICKENS, II [22593]
Assistant United States Attorney

LANNY A. BREUER
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
CRIMINAL DIVISION


JOHN D. BURETTA [Member of NY Bar]
Director, Deepwater Horizon Task Force
DEREK A. COHEN [Member of NY Bar]
Deputy Director, Deepwater Horizon Task Force
AVI GESSER [Member of NY Bar]
Deputy Director, Deepwater Horizon Task Force
SCOTT M. CULLEN [Member of MD Bar]
Trial Attorney, Deepwater Horizon Task Force
COLIN L. BLACK [Member of NY Bar]
Trial Attorney, Deepwater Horizon Task Force
ROHAN A. VIRGINKAR [Member of DC Bar]
Trial Attorney, Deepwater Horizon Task Force

New Orleans, Louisiana
January 3, 2013

