



experts statements

Bill.Lehr to: mcnut

05/23/2010 04:58 PM

James J Riley, "Espina, Pedro I.", "pete@gso.uri.edu",
Cc: "Wereley@purdue.edu", Alberto Aliseda, Paul Bommer, Poojitha
Yapa, Juan Lasheras, savas

Dear Dr. McNutt,

Attached is the statement agreed to by the flow experts regarding estimating the leak rate from the Deepwater Horizon spill.



TeamStatement.docx

May 23, 2010, 12 Noon, PDT

The following team of experts is attempting to estimate the flow rate from the broken riser at the source of the Deepwater Horizon spill, chiefly through quantitative visualization of the velocity of the exiting flow. Because of the complex nature of the flow and uncertainties involved in the estimation, only an estimated range of values is possible. However, even giving a range of values is not practical until the experts have access to information on the ratio of the oil to gas flow rates and densities, detailed drawings of the site, and high quality video of the release. Until today, that has not been available.

Based upon very preliminary calculations on extremely low quality video selected by BP, the experts believe that the minimum flow at the time of the provided video was larger than the reported 5000 bbl/day, probably several times that value.

James Riley	PACCAR Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Washington
Omer Savas	Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of California at Berkeley
Pedro Espina	National Institute of Standards and Technology
Juan C. Lasheras	Penner Distinguished Professor of Engineering and Applied Sciences, University of California at San Diego
Poojitha Yapa	Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Clarkson University
Paul Bommer	Senior Lecturer, Petroleum and Geosystems, University of Texas at Austin
Steve Wereley	Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Purdue University
Peter Cornillon	Professor of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island
Ira Leifer	Associate Researcher, Marine Science Institute and Institute for Crustal Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara.
Alberto Aliseda	Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Washington