



RE: more about ROV data

Moran, Kathryn o Marcia K McNutt, Bill.Lehr

05/24/2010 08:44 AM

Marcia,

Thanks for this clarification and background. Extremely helpful.

Kate

From: Marcia K McNutt [mailto:mcnutt@usgs.gov]

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2010 8:24 AM

To: Bill.Lehr@noaa.gov

Cc: Moran, Kathryn

Subject: more about ROV data

Bill -

I just had a conversation with Gordon here at BP about the ROV data. He spent the evening selecting the data for you, and filled me in on the issues associated with meeting the needs of the FRTT. It turns out that there is only a 36-hour time window out of this entire incident that can serve to fulfill the team's requirements. You can't have dispersant being applied, you can't have the RITT tool in the end of the riser, good views of both the flow through the kink and the end of the riser must be visible, and it has to be before the trench was excavated. Of course none of this, now historical, data was collected with the needs of science in mind. But they have done the best they can. If the data now on its way to you doesn't suffice, then there basically is no existing data that can do the job, and we will have to commission new data, which means removing the RITT tool, increasing VOCs at the surface right before the delicate top kill operation, and increase the surface slick. We need to think carefully about this.

The other thing I have asked Gordon to send you is a section of data that shows what the plume looks like during a period of time from last night when they were pulling 4000 barrels of oil and 2 to 3 million cubic feet of gas up the RITT. In the video footage, the plume is extremely lazy compared to its previous expression, suggesting that a significant fraction of something (gas or oil or both) is being captured. It may be easier for the team to analyze this footage with less "happening" in it and just add back in a known yield at the surface.

I hope that this is helpful.

Marcia

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