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Inspection: 305355869 - Pool Well Services Co

Inspection Information - Office: Ca Anaheim (Psm S.)

Nr: 305355869	Report ID:0950637	Open Date: 05/19/2005
Pool Well Services Co 12515 Honolulu Terrace Whittier, CA 90601		Union Status: NonUnion
SIC: 1389/Oil and Gas Field Services, Not Elsewhere Classified		
NAICS: 213112/Support Activities for Oil and Gas Operations		
Mailing: 19431 S Santa Fe Ave, Rancho Dominguez, CA 90221		
Inspection Type: Accident		
Scope: Partial	Advanced Notice: N	
Ownership: Private	Close Conference: 08/01/2005	
Safety/Health: Safety	Close Case: 08/12/2010	
Related Activity: Type	ID	Safety Health
Accident	362461493	

Violation Summary

	Serious	Willful	Repeat	Other	Unclass	Total
Initial Violations	3					3
Current Violations	2					2
Initial Penalty	48600					48600
Current Penalty	32400					32400
FTA Amount						

Violation Items

#	ID	Type	Standard	Issuance	Abate	Curr\$	Init\$	Fta\$	Contest	LastEvent
Deleted 1.	01001	Serious	6521 A	08/01/2005	08/11/2005	\$0	\$16200	\$0	08/31/2005	D - Govt Dismissed
2.	01002	Serious	6535 C	08/01/2005	08/11/2005	\$16200	\$16200	\$0		-
3.	02001	Serious	6535 C	08/01/2005	08/11/2005	\$16200	\$16200	\$0	08/31/2005	F - Formal Settlement

Accident Investigation Summary

Summary Nr: 201146925 Event: 05/19/2005 Three Employees Receives Burns, One Dies, In Well Fire

At 2:00 p.m. on May 19, 2005, Employees #1, #2, and #3 were, with two coworkers, working for Pool Well Services Company at a Matrix Oil Corporation well in Whittier, CA. Pool Well Services had been contracted by Briones Oilfield Services, the operator of the Matrix lease, to desand the well. The day before, the workers had set up a portable workover rig and a blowout preventer (BOP) on the well for the desanding. The incident site consists of seventeen oil wells originally drilled in the 1970s and located 10 feet below grade in a 75-ft by 10-ft cellar. On the day of the accident, workers were pulling tubing from the well, when the tubing became stuck at a depth of 300 to 500 feet in the 8000-foot deep well. While holding the tubing flange 10 feet above the BOP with the workover rig, Employee # 3 instructed the crew to backflush the tubing. A mud pump was set up to inject water into the tubing. As this was going on, the diesel engine on the workover rig began to overrun uncontrollably; flammable vapors from the well were entering the engine's intake manifold. To reduce or stop the gaseous release from the well, Employee # 3 directed Employee # 1 to release the tubing flange and drop it back onto the BOP. Employee # 1 released the tubing and ran to the control panel at the center of the workover rig to engage the emergency stop device and shut down the diesel engine. Suddenly, a flash fire occurred at the engine; it traveled back toward the source of the release at the wellhead. Fire engulfed the area where Employee # 1 was standing. Employee # 3 ran from the derrick end of the workover rig toward Employee # 1 to extinguish the fire on Employee # 1's clothing. Employee # 2 jumped from the top of the mud pump control platform and ran toward the entrance gate. One coworker, 75 feet from the well when the fire broke out, ran toward the gate and was unharmed. A second coworker, 40 feet from the well, also escaped toward the gate unharmed. Employees #1, #2, and #3 all received burns. Employee #1 died from his injuries. Employees #2 and #3 were not hospitalized.

Keywords: burn, oil well servicing, oil rig, engine, vapor, wellhead

Inspection	Degree	Nature	Occupation
1 305355869	Fatality	Burn/Scald(Heat)	Drillers, oil well
2 305355869	Non Hospitalized injury	Burn/Scald(Heat)	Drillers, oil well
3 305355869	Non Hospitalized injury	Burn/Scald(Heat)	Drillers, oil well



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Standard Cited: 6521 A

This violation item has been **deleted**.

Violation Items

Nr: 305355869	Citation: 01001	Issuance: 08/01/2005	ReportingID: 0950637
Viol Type: Serious	NrInstances: 1	Contest Date: 08/31/2005	
Abatement Date: 08/11/2005 X	Nr Exposed: 10	Final Order: 02/11/2009	
Initial Penalty: 16200.00	REC:	Emphasis:	
Current Penalty:	Gravity:	Haz Category:	

Penalty and Failure to Abate Event History

Type	Event	Date	Penalty	abatement	Type	FTA Insp
Penalty D:	Govt Dismissed	02/11/2009		08/11/2005	Serious	
Penalty Z:	Issued	08/01/2005	16200.00	08/11/2005	Serious	

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Standard Cited: 6535 C

Violation Items

Nr.: 305355869	Clatton: 01002	Issuance: 08/01/2005	ReportingID: 0950637
Viol Type: Serious	NrInstances: 1	Contest Date:	
Abatement Date: 08/11/2005	Nr Exposed: 5	Final Order:	
Initial Penalty: 16200.00	REC:	Emphasis:	
Current Penalty: 16200.00	Gravity:	Haz Category:	

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Standard Cited: 6535 C

Violation Items

Nr: 305355869	Citation: 02001	Issuance: 08/01/2005	ReportingID: 0950637
Viol Type: Serious	NrInstances: 1	Contest Date: 08/31/2005	
Abatement Date: 08/11/2005 X	Nr Exposed: 5	Final Order: 02/11/2009	
Initial Penalty: 16200.00	REC:	Emphasis:	
Current Penalty: 16200.00	Gravity:	Haz Category:	

Penalty and Failure to Abate Event History

Type	Event	Date	Penalty	abatement	Type	FTA Insp
Penalty Z: Issued		08/01/2005	16200.00	08/11/2005	Serious	
Penalty F: Formal Settlement		02/11/2009	16200.00	08/11/2005	Serious	

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