

Message

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**From:** Panelo, Marcelo [/O=MSXBP/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=MARCELO.PANELO]  
**Sent:** 16/05/2016 15:45:36  
**To:** Stout, Robert [/O=MSXBP/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=Robert.Stout]; van Hoogstraten, David Jan [/O=MSXBP/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=David.vanHoog]  
**Subject:** RE: The Washington Free Beacon: Environmentalist Group Warned Against Federal Charges for 'Deniers'

Thank you Bob,

This was very interesting.

In 2008 and before he became head of OSHA, Dr. Michaels wrote a book called, "Doubt is Their Product: How Industry's Assault on Science Threatens Your Health" where he argues for the removal of politics out of science and that regulatory policy should be guided by public safety rather than private profits.

I have a book copy on my desk if someone is interested in reading it.

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***Marcelo M. Panelo***

Sr. Director, US Federal Regulatory Affairs - Safety & Health  
BP America Communications & External Affairs



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**From:** Stout, Robert  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2016 9:42 AM  
**To:** Panelo, Marcelo  
**Subject:** FW: The Washington Free Beacon: Environmentalist Group Warned Against Federal Charges for 'Deniers'

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**From:** Stutz, Rachel  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2016 4:01 PM  
**To:** Morrell, Geoff; Stout, Robert; Streett, Mary  
**Cc:** van Hoogstraten, David Jan  
**Subject:** FW: The Washington Free Beacon: Environmentalist Group Warned Against Federal Charges for 'Deniers'

This story confirms the UCS strategy for state AG actions. I will have Brunswick pull the UCS emails – for some reason I am blocked from that site.

Rachel Stutz



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**From:** Hallie Dewey [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2016 3:45 PM  
**To:** Silva, Arturo; Clanton, Brett; Sidoti, Elizabeth; Morrell, Geoff; Ryan, Jason; Gonzalez, Jessica L; Ellis, Joe; Gase, Karen K; Perkins, Mary Ellen; Streett, Mary; Chen, Matthew; Nash, Mike A (Legal); Stutz, Rachel; Dempsey, Ray C; Raftery,

Becky; Stout, Robert; Guinn, Shanan

**Cc:** Ellen Moskowitz

**Subject:** The Washington Free Beacon: Environmentalist Group Warned Against Federal Charges for 'Deniers'

### **Environmentalist Group Warned Against Federal Charges for 'Deniers'**

*Emails released by Virginia court reveal strategizing behind Exxon racketeering push*

By Lachlan Markay

The Washington Free Beacon

May 13, 2016

A leading environmentalist group discouraged efforts to bring federal racketeering charges against oil companies and groups they support for "denying" climate change, suggesting instead that proponents of the effort enlist state-level law enforcement officials, newly released emails show.

The Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) told professors at George Mason University, a public university in Virginia, that their push to enlist Attorney General Loretta Lynch in a civil action against oil companies and policy groups to which they donate was not legally sound.

Instead, the group suggested pushing for charges against those companies at the state level. That strategy has been put into effect by attorneys general in 17 states, who are currently exploring racketeering charges against oil giant Exxon Mobil and nonprofit groups that disagree with Democratic environmental policies.

The [UCS emails](#) were among those shared exclusively with the *Washington Free Beacon* on Friday after a Virginia judge rejected George Mason's attempts to seal the records pending litigation over an open records lawsuit brought by attorney Chris Horner.

Horner filed an open records request in September seeking emails to and from GMU climatologist Jagadish Shukla and Dr. Edward Maibach, who directs GMU's Center for Climate Change Communication.

They sent a letter to Lynch and President Barack Obama asking them to explore civil racketeering charges against climate change "deniers" and their financial supporters. Lynch [has since said](#) that she instructed the FBI to explore the possibility of filing such charges.

According to emails released on Friday, UCS quickly rejected the idea, citing its apparent lack of legal merit.

"After taking a close look, we've decided to not pursue this opportunity with you," wrote Peter Frumhoff, director of climate policy at UCS, in an email to Maibach.

"In reaching out to climate scientists to sign on, we feel that we'd need to give them some firmer grounding for believing that a federal investigation under the RICO statute is warranted—enough that they'd be able to explain their rationale for signing on to reporters and others," Frumhoff wrote.

However, he added that UCS was pushing for Democratic officials at the state level to bring charges of their own.

"Just so you know, we're also in the process of exploring other state-based approaches to holding fossil fuel companies legally accountable—we think there'll likely be a strong basis for encouraging state (e.g. AG) action forward," Frumhoff wrote.

That strategy is now playing out in 17 states, where Democratic attorneys general have teamed up to bring racketeering charges against Exxon Mobil. The Competitive Enterprise Institute, a libertarian think tank, has also been subpoenaed by the AG of the U.S. Virgin Islands as part of the campaign.

As for the possibility of federal charges, Frumhoff declined to lend the names of UCS's ranks of scientists to the effort.

"We don't think that Sen. [Sheldon] Whitehouse's [D., R.I.] call gives enough of a basis for scientists to sign on to this as a solid approach at this point," he added, referring to a Whitehouse op-ed pushing for RICO charges that inspired Maibach's and Shukla's letter.

That letter set off a firestorm after the *Free Beacon* [reported](#) that a now-defunct nonprofit run by Shukla and his wife, the Institute of Global Environment and Society, had received more than \$63 million in federal taxpayer support since 2001, more than 98% of its revenue in that time.

Horner, who is also a senior legal fellow at CEI, sought records that he expected would show Shukla, Maibach, and other public university scientists working behind the scenes to advance the legal campaign against oil companies and groups that take policy positions contrary to those of the AGs going after Exxon.

GMU initially told Horner that there were no responsive documents to open records requests. But he received emails from requests filed with other state universities that included emails to or from Shukla and Maibach. He sued GMU to compel the release of those and other emails.

A Virginia court ruled last month that GMU did in fact withhold responsive documents, and ordered their release. The university is appealing that decision to the Virginia Supreme Court, and sought on Friday to prevent the documents' release pending that appeal.

A judge in Richmond rejected that request on Friday, allowing the documents to be released. If the case does proceed to the Supreme Court, Virginia attorney general Mark Herring, who has joined in the state-level legal campaign against Exxon Mobil, will be the first official involved in that effort to attempt to prevent the release of documents pertaining to it.

The emails released on Friday show collaboration between Maibach and other groups that seemed eager to aide in the legal campaign against climate change "deniers."

Maibach enlisted the services of Jeff Nesbit, the executive director of environmentalist communications firm Climate Nexus, they show. Nesbit advised Maibach and Shukla on media strategy and offered to help placing an op-ed on the RICO efforts with a friendly reporter at the *Washington Post*.

After the *Free Beacon* and others reported on Shukla's receipt of government grant money, a reporter with Fox News emailed him with questions, emails show. Maibach asked whether he should respond. "I wouldn't advise him to," Nesbit wrote.

Maibach suggested an interview with *Washington Post* climate reporter Chris Mooney instead. "Ah, I like that," Nesbit replied. "Drop Chris a note. Let me know if I can help—I can circle back with him."

The emails released on Friday also reveal communications with the group RepublicEN, a GOP-branded nonprofit run by former Rep. Bob Inglis (R., Ga.). The emails show Inglis advising Maibach on the letter to Obama and Lynch and an accompanying op-ed.

"The op-ed is good when coming from you," Inglis wrote in a September email to Maibach. "We would have made it sound like we were coming alongside the Rs to help them out."

Inglis suggested that Republican policymakers would not likely heed Maibach's warnings about climate change, but that some of their donors might.

"You are on the scene schooling [Republicans] about the cliff that they are about to go over," Inglis wrote. "They won't like being schooled, but their financial backers and the smart money may take your words to heart and reflect the warning back to the candidates."

However, Inglis also cautioned against the use of racketeering statutes to go after climate change dissenters.

"RICO is a sore subject and in the conservative mind it may be case in the milieu of enforcing politically correct discourse in the academy, a regulation of speech," Inglis warned.

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**From:** Hallie Dewey

**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2016 2:55 PM

**To:** Arturo Silva [REDACTED]; Brett Clanton - BP [REDACTED]; Elizabeth Sidoti - BP [REDACTED]; Geoff Morrell - BP [REDACTED]; Jason Ryan - BP [REDACTED]; Jessica Gonzalez; Joe Ellis [REDACTED]; Karen Gase - BP [REDACTED]; Mary Perkins; Mary Streett - BP [REDACTED]; Matthew Chen - BP [REDACTED]; Mike Nash; Rachel Stutz - BP America [REDACTED]; Ray Dempsey [REDACTED]; Rebecca Raftery; Robert Stout - BP [REDACTED]; Shanan Guinn - BP [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Ellen Moskowitz

**Subject:** Greenpeace: Another Reason to Keep It in the Ground: Shell Spills 90,000 Gallons of Oil Into the Gulf of Mexico

## **Another Reason to Keep It in the Ground: Shell Spills 90,000 Gallons of Oil Into the Gulf of Mexico**

*In case you needed another reason to join the movement to keep fossil fuels in the ground, Shell Oil is here to give you one. Yesterday, the company spilled nearly 90,000 gallons of crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana.*

By Ryan Schleeter

Greenpeace

May 13, 2016

Just weeks after commemorating the six-year anniversary of the catastrophic Deepwater Horizon blowout, the Gulf of Mexico is once again the site of a major oil spill.

Yesterday evening, the U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) reported a 36-square-mile oil sheen visible about 97 miles off the Louisiana coast near Shell's Brutus platform. As of this morning, no injuries had been reported. The Coast Guard says the source of the spill has been secured and that a cleanup crew has been dispatched to the site.

But it will likely be days before we understand the full extent of the damage done.

### **When We Drill, We Spill**

In a statement issued yesterday, Shell executives said that "no release [of oil] is acceptable, and safety remains our priority as we respond to this incident."

If safety was truly the company's priority, it wouldn't be drilling for oil in the first place. History has proven that the more fossil fuel infrastructure we have, the more spills and leaks we'll see — whether it's Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf, the Exxon Valdez in Alaska, or the Santa Barbara oil spill almost exactly one year ago at Refugio State Beach in California.

The only way to prevent an oil spill is to keep oil in the ground. That's what communities in the Gulf and other coastal regions, which were quick to condemn the spill and call for an end to fossil fuel exploitation, want and deserve.

On top of the impacts for coastal communities, continuing our reliance on drilling and burning oil comes at a high cost for the climate. In fact, a 2015 study in the journal *Nature* revealed that we need to leave at least 80 percent of the world's known remaining fossil fuel reserves in the ground to prevent runaway climate change.

More drilling in the Gulf, the Arctic, or anywhere else isn't going to get us there.

While it's likely we won't know the full extent of the damage from this spill for weeks, one thing is clear. From the Gulf to Alaska and everywhere in between, the path to a sustainable future does not include fossil fuels.

**President Obama can put these leaks, spills, and climate disasters behind us by stopping new offshore drilling in the Gulf and Arctic. Our oceans are not a sacrifice zone for oil profit — take action!**

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**From:** Hallie Dewey

**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2016 1:07 PM

**To:** Arturo Silva [REDACTED]; Brett Clanton - BP [REDACTED]; Elizabeth Sidoti - BP [REDACTED]; Geoff Morrell - BP [REDACTED]; Jason Ryan - BP [REDACTED]; Jessica Gonzalez; Joe Ellis [REDACTED]; Karen Gase - BP [REDACTED]; Mary Perkins; Mary Streett - BP [REDACTED]; Matthew Chen - BP [REDACTED]; Mike Nash; Rachel Stutz - BP America [REDACTED]; Ray Dempsey [REDACTED]; Rebecca Raftery; Robert Stout - BP [REDACTED]; Shanan Guinn - BP [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Ellen Moskowitz

**Subject:** Oil Change International: Exxon Faces Questions Over Climate As Gates Dumps BP

### **Exxon Faces Questions Over Climate As Gates Dumps BP**

By Andy Rowell

Oil Change International

May 13, 2016

The famous quote attributed to Benjamin Franklin is that "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes".

Another certainty is that you know that the top executives of controversial companies absolutely hate the one day in the year that they are accountable to their shareholders: the AGM.

It is a day to be endured under extreme duress. A day when normally aloof executives have to answer awkward questions. There is no escape. There is no spin doctor to wheel out instead. The chief executive and chairman have to go face to face with the public. And it can hurt.

Often the questions are over ridiculously high pay levels. In addition, Big Oil executives are used to being quizzed on a whole host of other abuses: over the years answering why they were propping up apartheid; polluting the coasts of Alaska; colluding with the military who were murdering their critics in Nigeria; over-stating their reserves; polluting the Gulf of Mexico or spending silly money looking for oil in the Arctic. I could go on.

And that is before we get to the thorny issue of climate change and stranded assets and pouring invaluable shareholder money down a big black hole.

The companies are coming under increasing criticism over their flawed long-term business strategy.

Just last week, the influential *Economist* Magazine reported that “it has been a grim decade for investors in international oil firms—among them, many of the world’s biggest pension funds. Even before oil prices started to fall in 2014, the supermajors threw money away on grandiose schemes: drilling in the Arctic and building giant gas terminals.”

The magazine continued that “Not only do the supermajors need to brace for the possibility of a renewed slide in oil prices in the short term; they must also prepare for a future in which oil demand is increasingly uncertain because of climate change, pollution and the emergence of alternative sources of energy.”

The article finished by concluding that “investors may pressure” the companies from “thinking differently” that the world “will want more hydrocarbons”.

And this is happening. At its AGM this month, Exxon will face further questioning over climate change.

Along with Chevron, the board of Exxon is being urged by over 1,000 leading academics from some of the world’s top Universities to vote in favour of resolutions which are demanding greater openness by the oil giants on how climate change impacts their business strategy.

The letter says: “Climate change poses financial risks, and investors need better disclosure to understand and price those risks.” Lily Tomson from Positive Investment, from the coalition behind the letter to Exxon, argues: “This is a chance to change the trajectory of two of the largest fossil fuel companies in the world.”

There are those who argue that Exxon and the other oil majors are running out of time to change, though. Professor Paul Stevens from the Chatham House think tank in London, argues that Big Oil has about ten years to figure out a new business model. If they do not adapt to climate change they could face a rapid and and “brutish” decline within a decade.

Stevens argues that “this would require a major change in the corporate culture” of Big Oil; however, it “remains to be seen whether their senior management could handle such a fundamental shift.”

So far Exxon’s senior management are adopting the age old “head in the sand” response and the company’s board has so far advised shareholders to vote against the measures over climate at the AGM on May 25.

Meanwhile, after months of intense pressure, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has dumped its entire \$187 million holding in BP. “We are thrilled that the Gates foundation continues to divest from fossil fuel stocks, but it’s time to divest the rest,” said Alec Connon, an organiser for the Gates Divest campaign, based in Washington state.

Other large investors are being urged to follow suit and divest their fossil fuel stocks.

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**From:** Hallie Dewey

**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2016 12:17 PM

**To:** Arturo Silva [REDACTED]; Brett Clanton - BP [REDACTED]; Elizabeth Sidoti - BP [REDACTED]; Geoff Morrell - BP [REDACTED]; Jason Ryan - BP [REDACTED]; Jessica Gonzalez; Joe Ellis [REDACTED]; Karen Gase - BP [REDACTED]; Mary Perkins; Mary Streett - BP [REDACTED]; Matthew Chen - BP [REDACTED]; Mike Nash; Rachel Stutz - BP America

[REDACTED]); Ray Dempsey [REDACTED] Rebecca Raftery; Robert Stout - BP

[REDACTED]; Shanan Guinn - BP [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Ellen Moskowitz

**Subject:** Huffington Post: Blog: Seas May Be Rising, But So Are the People

**Blog: Seas May Be Rising, But So Are the People**

By Erich Pica  
Huffington Post  
May 13, 2016

We are building the movement to stop catastrophic climate change: the Keep It in the Ground movement. All over the country, people are rising up against Fossil Fuel Empires to protect our public areas and climate from a legacy of destruction and climate disruption. Together, we're sending a message to President Obama that time is running short, but he can still define his climate legacy by stopping the sale of fossil fuels on public lands and waters and keeping them in the ground.

Over the past week, thousands around the globe have stood against some of the world's most dangerous fossil fuel projects as part of [Break Free from Fossil Fuels 2016](#). Break Free from Fossil Fuels is a global wave of resistance to keep coal, oil and gas in the ground and to accelerate the just transition to 100 percent renewable energy. On May 15, in Washington, D.C., more than a thousand people will join this wave as they gather in front of the White House to demand an end to offshore drilling. Just two months after President Obama acknowledged the need to [move away from the dirty fuels](#) of the past, his administration [announced a plan](#) to open millions of new acres in the Arctic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico for oil and gas exploration and development. The 2017-2022 offshore drilling plan is the wrong direction for the health and safety of our communities, wildlife, environment and climate. It undermines the president's commitment to address global warming.

The Arctic Ocean and the Gulf Coast are the literal front lines of fossil fuel destruction and climate disruption. The dirty legacies of Exxon Valdez in Prince William Sound, Alaska and Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico will continue for years. Along both coastlines, [Indigenous communities](#) are forced to [permanently relocate](#) as sea levels rise and the land erodes into the encroaching water. The time of treating our oceans and coastlines as zones to pillage, destroy and sacrifice is over.

On May 15 in Washington, D.C., the people will call on President Obama to use his executive authority to permanently protect our oceans and end new oil and gas leasing. Such executive action would keep up to [62 billion tons](#) of carbon emissions in the ground and make progress toward limiting global warming to less than 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. Given the dangers of oil spills and the urgent need to combat climate disruption, the federal government should have nothing to do with the dirty business of offshore drilling. Selling these waters that belong to the American people to private companies that only profit from environmental and climate destruction is unconscionable.

The seas may be rising, but so are the people. In less than a year, [hundreds of people surrounded](#) the New Orleans Superdome against new leases, and for efforts to restore, heal and defend the Gulf Coast; [kayaktivists](#) helped to stop Shell's drilling activities in the Arctic Ocean, and towns and businesses along the mid- and south-Atlantic coast [united to keep the Atlantic Ocean out](#) of the 2017-2022 offshore drilling plan. With every victory, we're showing that people power trumps fossil power.

That's why the Break Free from Fossil Fuels week of action is so important for the Keep It in the Ground movement. On May 15, the people will demonstrate their power in front of the White House to make sure President Obama hears their message: Stop offshore drilling! No new leases! Keep fossil fuels in the ground!

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**From:** Hallie Dewey

**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2016 11:42 AM

**To:** Arturo Silva [REDACTED]; Brett Clanton - BP [REDACTED]; Elizabeth Sidoti - BP [REDACTED]; Geoff Morrell - BP [REDACTED]; Jason Ryan - BP [REDACTED]; Jessica Gonzalez; Joe Ellis [REDACTED]; Karen Gase - BP [REDACTED]; Mary Perkins; Mary Streett - BP [REDACTED]; Matthew Chen - BP [REDACTED]; Mike Nash; Rachel Stutz - BP America [REDACTED]; Ray Dempsey [REDACTED]; Rebecca Raftery; Robert Stout - BP [REDACTED]; Shanan Guinn - BP [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Ellen Moskowitz

**Subject:** Common Dreams: 'Status Quo': Shell Spews Nearly 90,000 Gallons of Oil into Gulf of Mexico in Latest Spill

**'Status Quo': Shell Spews Nearly 90,000 Gallons of Oil into Gulf of Mexico in Latest Spill**

*'This spill shows why there is a new and vibrant movement in the Gulf of Mexico for no new drilling'*

By Nika Knight

Common Dreams

May 13, 2016

Royal Dutch Shell's offshore drilling operations were pouring oil into the Gulf of Mexico on Thursday, ultimately releasing nearly 90,000 gallons of oil into the water off the Louisiana coast.

The company said the spill was spotted above an underwater pipeline system, although specific details regarding the leak's cause were not made public.

The spill left a 13-by 2-mile sheen on the water, *NBC reports*. While the company assured reporters and government agencies that wells in the area had been shut off and the spill was being contained, local observers expressed deep skepticism.

"What we usually see in oil industry accidents like this is a gross understatement of the amount released and an immediate assurance that everything is under control, even if it's not," said Anne Rolfes, founding director of anti-offshore drilling group the Louisiana Bucket Brigade. "This spill shows why there is a new and vibrant movement in the Gulf of Mexico for no new drilling."

Locals opposed to offshore drilling argue that oil spills in the Gulf of Mexico have become tragically commonplace. "According to the federal National Response Center, the oil industry has thousands of accidents in the Gulf of Mexico every year," the Louisiana Bucket Brigade said.

This latest disaster occurred mere weeks after the six-year anniversary of BP's catastrophic oil spill in the Gulf and on the very same day that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) held a hearing on the agency's next Five Year Plan for the Gulf of Mexico.

Thursday's BOEM hearing focused on the environmental impact statement of oil drilling in the Gulf. The Louisiana Bucket Brigade reported that locals discovered and collected tarballs in the Gulf's Grand Isle last month—demonstrating that "BOEM's environmental impact assessment is inadequate."

"It's unacceptable that oil spills have been permitted to become the status quo in the Gulf," said Sierra Club executive director Michael Brune in response to this latest disaster. "From Deepwater Horizon to the Taylor Well to Shell's latest disaster, we have allowed the region to be perpetually treated as a sacrifice zone—a place where we tolerate pollution and disasters to continue our dependence on fossil fuels."

Activists nationwide are urging President Obama to put a stop to all oil and gas leases in the Gulf to prevent such disasters from continuing.

Indeed, the global environmental campaign Break Free from Fossil Fuels has planned a march in Washington, D.C. on Sunday to call for an end to offshore drilling.

"This practice must end now," Brune said. "Hundreds of thousands of people have mobilized across the country, and thousands more will march in Washington, D.C. this Sunday calling for President Obama to protect our waters and coastal communities from offshore drilling."

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**From:** Hallie Dewey

**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2016 10:49 AM

**To:** Arturo Silva [REDACTED]; Brett Clanton - BP [REDACTED]; Elizabeth Sidoti - BP [REDACTED]; Geoff Morrell - BP [REDACTED]; Jason Ryan - BP [REDACTED]; Jessica Gonzalez; Joe Ellis [REDACTED]; Karen Gase - BP [REDACTED]; Mary Perkins; Mary Streett - BP [REDACTED]; Matthew Chen - BP [REDACTED]; Mike Nash; Rachel Stutz - BP America [REDACTED]; Ray Dempsey [REDACTED]; Rebecca Raftery; Robert Stout - BP [REDACTED]; Shanan Quinn - BP [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Ellen Moskowitz

**Subject:** Oilprice.com: Shell Shuts Down Four Gulf of Mexico Wells After Oil Spill

**Shell Shuts Down Four Gulf of Mexico Wells After Oil Spill**

By Charles Kennedy

[Oilprice.com](#)

May 13, 2016

Royal Dutch Shell has shut down four wells feeding into an underwater pipeline in the Gulf of Mexico off the state of Louisiana following a spill that has released some 2,100-barrels of crude oil—close to 90,000 gallons-- into the water.

The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, a branch of the US Interior Department which regulates offshore oil activity, said the oil sheen was 2 miles by 13 miles.

The oil extracted by the four wells flows through an underwater pipeline that leads to Shell's Brutus platform.

Shell says the leak has now been contained and a clean-up operation is under way.

"The likely cause of the sheen is a release of oil from subsea infrastructure and in response, we have isolated the leak and shut-in production," the company said in a statement. "No release is acceptable, and safety remains our highest priority as we respond to this incident," it further said, adding no injuries were reported.

The incident is also investigated by the Coast Guard and federal offshore safety inspectors who flew over the area to assess it and are currently on location at the platform. The cause of the incident is still being investigated, they said.

The Brutus platform has been operational since 2001 and has a capacity of 100,000 barrels per day of oil and 150 million cubic feet per day of natural gas.

In 2010, a BP oil drilling site burst, releasing three million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico. The incident, which also resulted in 11 dead, dispersed oil on a surface which spanned a whopping 175,000 square kilometers. In July 2015, BP agreed to pay \$18.7 billion in fines, the largest corporate settlement in U.S. history.

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**From:** Hallie Dewey

**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2016 7:40 AM

**To:** Arturo Silva [REDACTED]; Brett Clanton - BP [REDACTED]; Elizabeth Sidoti - BP [REDACTED]; Geoff Morrell - BP [REDACTED]; Jason Ryan - BP [REDACTED]; Jessica Gonzalez; Joe Ellis [REDACTED]; Karen Gase - BP [REDACTED]; Mary Perkins; Mary Streett - BP [REDACTED]; Matthew Chen - BP [REDACTED]; Mike Nash; Rachel Stutz - BP America [REDACTED]; Ray Dempsey [REDACTED]; Rebecca Raftery; Robert Stout - BP [REDACTED]; Shanan Guinn - BP [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Ellen Moskowitz

**Subject:** Bloomberg: Shell Shuts Gulf of Mexico Platform After Offshore Oil Spill

**Shell Shuts Gulf of Mexico Platform After Offshore Oil Spill**

By David Marino and Ryan Sachetta

Bloomberg

May 12, 2016

- Sheen reported 97 miles offshore; about 2,100 barrels spilled
- Oil likely from infrastructure, not a drilling incident: Shell

Royal Dutch Shell Plc shut all oil and gas wells flowing to its Brutus platform in the Gulf of Mexico after an oil spill.

Shell reported a sheen about 97 miles south of Port Fourchon, Louisiana, near its Gilder field, the U.S. Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement said in e-mailed statement Thursday. The company has shut production from the field and from the Brutus platform, it said in its own statement. The spill was estimated to be 2,100 barrels, or about 88,200 gallons. Glider and Brutus are mature fields and there is no drilling going on in the area, according to Shell.

"The likely cause of the sheen is a release of oil from subsea infrastructure and, in response, Shell has isolated the leak and shut-in production at both fields," the company said in the statement. "There are no drilling activities at Brutus, and this is not a well control incident."

Oil production from the Gulf of Mexico is bucking the trend of lower U.S. output as projects set in motion more than a decade ago come online. Development in the Gulf slowed after BP Plc's Macondo disaster in 2010 that killed 11 and spewed millions of gallons of crude. Offshore production will rise to 1.66 million barrels a day this year and 1.85 million in 2017, the Energy Information Administration forecast Tuesday.

Brutus has the capacity to process 110,000 barrels of oil and condensate and 150 million cubic feet of natural gas a day, the company said on its website as of 2010.

**Hallie Dewey**

Account Researcher

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[REDACTED]

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