CLOSE HOLD - draft language from press release

Lee-Ashley, Matt to: Andy Bowen 06/09/2010 05:05 PM

Cc: "Dr. Richard Camilli", "McNutt, Marcia K" , "Sogge, Mark K"

Andy,

Can you please review the following draft language regarding the Woods Hole estimate? This would be included in a draft press release which we may issue tomorrow, but that may change. We would link to your summary from our release so the public and press can get more information about your approach.

Let me know if you have any edits or concerns. Please keep this close hold

Thanks,
Matt
202-208-6415

3. Woods Hole Analysis

In coordination with the Unified Command, a team of experts from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution used acoustic technology to measure flow rates after the top-kill attempt ended and before the riser was cut. The flow estimates are derived from three different view angles above the riser pipe and three different view angles above the BOP. Woods Hole's total flow rate estimate of 0.12m^3/s to 0.23m^3/s from before the riser was cut is a preliminary bulk flow estimate and does not analyze how much of that flow may be oil, natural gas, sediments, or produced water.

USGS Director Marcia McNutt estimates that – based on Woods Hole's analysis and assuming that the oil-gas ratio is approximately 40% – a range of 25,000 to 50,000 barrels of oil per day is consistent with the methodology and analysis that Woods Hole used. In addition, using the 40% oil-gas ratio enables the FRTG to compare these estimates with the Plume Modeling Team's results since this is consistent with the oil-gas ratio they used.

"It is important to understand that Woods Hole's analysis produced a total flow estimate, and not an oil-specific estimate," said Dr. McNutt. "But from the oil-gas ratio we are observing on the Enterprise from the Top Hat it would appear that a range of 25,000 to 50,000 barrels of oil per day – before the riser cut – is consistent with the Woods Hole analysis, although this is strictly our interpretation of their data."

DRAFT