

Civil Penalties Program

The goal of the BSEE OCS Civil Penalties Program is to assure safe and clean operations on the OCS. Through the pursuit, assessment, and collection of civil penalties and referrals for the consideration of criminal penalties, the program is designed to encourage compliance with OCS statutes and regulations.

Civil Penalties Summary (as of 2/17/2025)

Penalties Paid for FY2017

(10/1/2016-9/30/2017)

Operator Name and Case #	Violation and Date(s)	Penalty Paid & Date Paid	Regulation(s) Violated 30 CFR
Freeport McMoRan Oil & Gas LLC P-2015-002	Operator improperly rendering H2S sensors out of service and performing maintenance on an ultra-high pressure blasting unit without proper isolation or work permits. October 27, 2014	\$10,000.00 December 6, 2016	H-124 30 CFR 250.490(j) (5) (iii) G-110 30 CFR 250.120(a)
Energy XXI GOM, LLC G-2015-023	Two wells Temporary Abandoned without verification of plug integrity; verified methane gas bubbling up. January 29, 2015 (A-107, G-111, G-112) March 17, 2015 (A-107) January 31, 2015 (G-115)	\$965,000.00 February 9, 2017	A-107 (Two) 30 CFR 250.1715(b) G-115 30 CFR 250.1712 G-112 30 CFR 250.107 G-111 30 CFR 250.107
McMoRan Oil & Gas LLC G-2015-031	Injuries occurred to two personnel who fell out of a Personnel basket while attempting to evacuate the platform with a Tropical Storm approaching the area. June 12, 2015	\$37,000.00 February 23, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a)
Hoactzin Partners, L.P. G-2015-035	Failure to move equipment containing flammable substances (methanol) at least 35 feet horizontally from the welding area prior to conducting welding operations. September 19, 2015	\$25,000.00 November 14, 2016	G-103 30 CFR 250.113(a)
Hercules Offshore, Inc G-2016-004	While performing well completion operations there was a loss of well control, due to the rig personnel's inability to properly maintain the completion fluid density that would have enabled them to detect a well bore influx in a timely manner. The loss of well control caused a fire and extensive damages to the rig structure.	\$65,000.00 May 23, 2017	G-112 30 CFR 250.107

	July 23, 2013		
Northshore Offshore Group G-2016-010	BSEE Inspectors discovered hydrocarbons coming from the platform. Production operations were performing maintenance on the platform and were not properly monitoring by-passed equipment. The Level Safety High could not detect a high level, and caused an unauthorized discharge of hydrocarbons into the Gulf of America. December 14, 2015	\$78,750.00 October 31, 2016	P-103 (Two) 30 CFR 250.803(c) E-100 30 CFR 250.300
W&T Offshore, Inc. G-2016-013	BSEE Inspectors observed a gas cloud, and a 1 mile long by a ¼ mile wide sheen coming from the platform. The Inspectors observed hydrocarbons leaking from a well bleed-port, and several areas on the platform covered in hydrocarbons. The platform operators were bleeding down the flowline of a well with no containment, and venting natural gas and hydrocarbons to the atmosphere and into the Gulf of America. September 30, 2014	\$83,000.00 October 7, 2016	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a) E-100 30 CFR 250.300
ANKOR Energy LLC G-2016-014	The master control panel's system was in bypass while the platform was unmanned (without notifying the district manager) and while platform's systems were in service (normal operating conditions). September 9, 2015	\$52,000.00 May 30, 2017	P-103 30 CFR 250.803(c)
W&T Offshore, Inc. G-2016-019	During the course of an inspection, BSEE Inspectors discovered welding operations had been conducted within 35 feet of oil and mineral spirit storage drums, and near a wooden deck. The flammable material was not removed or protected with flame-proof covers. The Inspectors also observed severely corroded drums of chemicals, a leaking tote tank, and improper containment on the facility. March 2, 2016	\$52,000.00 December 2, 2016	G-303 30 CFR 250.113(a) G-112 30 CFR 250.107
Energy Resource Technology GOM, Inc. G-2016-020	Fatality occurred from a decommissioning operation. October 27, 2013	\$42,704.00 June 9, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a)
Petsec Energy Inc. G-2016-021	The process shutdown group system bypass was in bypass while the platform was in service (normal operating conditions).	\$21,000.00 September 23, 2017	P-103 30 CFR 250.803(c)

	June 19, 2015		
EnVen Energy Ventures, LLC G-2016-022	During the course of an inspection, BSEE Inspectors observed an open hole that was not properly barricaded to protect personnel from entering the hazardous area. May 5, 2016	\$26,250.00 November 15, 2016	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a)
Walter Oil & Gas Corporation G-2016-023	Unprotected areas for preventing falls and other hazards. May 23, 2016	\$21,000.00 June 2, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a)
Shell Offshore Inc. G-2016-025	personnel were bunkering methanol from a motor vessel to storage tanks on the platform. There was an inaccurate and insufficient management of a methanol transfer that overfilled the storage tanks, and resulting in an unauthorized discharge of methanol into the Gulf of America. May 25, 2016	\$47,250.00 January 12, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a) E-100 30 CFR 250.107(a)
Energy Resource Technology GOM, Inc. G-2016-026	Several Open holes on facility creating fall hazards for personnel. July 31, 2016	\$31,250.00 June 9, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a)
Shell Offshore Inc. G-2016-027	According to the investigation findings, the crane crew was in the process of moving a 6-by-6-foot cargo box from the production deck to the pipe rack. The Crane Operator was given the all clear and began maneuvering the box. As the Crane Operator maneuvered the box, a worker was injured after he became entangled in the tagline and was pulled over the water, where he fell 106 feet into the Gulf of America. May 5, 2016	\$36,750.00 February 27, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a)
Energy XXI GOM, LLC G-2017-001	During a previous inspection BSEE requested the operator to have a Non-Destructive Inspection performed on severely corroded piping. The results of the inspection revealed that the piping was unfit for service. BSEE returned at a later date to conduct a follow up inspection to check the status of the piping, and found that the operator still had the severely corroded piping in operation without making the needed repairs. September 9, 2016 - September 14, 2016	\$126,000.00 August 9, 2017	G-111 30 CFR 250.107

W&T Offshore Inc. G-2017-002	ESD on Master Panel bypassed and PSV on Pipeline isolated by a closed block valve. October 8, 2014	\$62,000.00 June 22, 2017	P-103 (Two) 30 CFR 250.803(c)
W&T Offshore Inc. G-2017-006	Tubing struck personnel in chest and then fell on his ankle breaking it. October 17, 2016	\$36,750.00 July 6, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107
Energy XXI GOM, LLC G-2017-007	During an inspection, BSEE Inspectors observed the Sump Pump (pump) supply valve blocked in the off position which prevented the pump from automatically maintaining the oil at a safe level to prevent a discharge of oil into the Gulf of America. March 30, 2015	\$26,000.00 June 22, 2017	E-103 30 CFR 250.300(b) (4)
Hess Corporation G-2017-010	According to the investigation findings, spent Therminol filters that were placed near process equipment ignited and caused a small fire. December 29, 2016	\$31,500.00 June 29, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a)
Energy XXI GOM, LLC G-2017-014	Crane shock loaded then followed by personnel transfer. May 3, 2016	\$26,250.00 July 17, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107(a)
Arena Offshore, LP G-2017-016	During an inspection, BSEE Inspectors observed the sump pump leaking excessive hydrocarbons. The hazard was not immediately corrected and removed. BSEE observed hydrocarbons in the sump pump skid, on the grating directly outside of the sump pump skid, the lower legs of the platform, and the surrounding areas. August 30, 2016	\$26,000.00 July 5, 2017	G-112 30 CFR 250.107
Chevron U.S.A. Inc. G-2017-017	Missed two check/test periods for PB Valve SSCSSV (or Storm Choke) in well. August 31, 2014 - October 9, 2015 (Assessed per missed testing period)	\$41,500.00 July 3, 2017	P-281 30 CFR 250.880(c) (i) (ii)
Chevron U.S.A. Inc. G-2017-019	An incident occurred while performing drill pipe handling operations, resulting in a worker being fatally struck in the head with a drill pipe. October 20, 2015	\$42,704.00 September 7, 2017	G-110 30 CFR 250.107

25 cases were closed during FY2017 with payments totaling \$2,012,658.00