Murphy Oil, Meraux Refinery
Oil Spill

Time line:

1. EPA fly-over ~1 day after Hurricane Katrina floods facility – No oil spill observed.
2. 2-3 days into Katrina – Murphy personnel discover oil spill.
3. 5-6 days into Katrina – USCG on site and no oil observed. Flood water over secondary containment.
4. Approximately 1 million gallons spilled
Location of Murphy Oil, Meraux Refinery

[Map showing the location of Murphy Oil, Meraux Refinery in New Orleans, LA.]
SPCC Plan Review
& Inspection Observations

- SPCC/ FRP Plan reviewed for regulatory compliance.
- Inspection records.
- Tank design/construction.
- Secondary containment.
- Piping Installation/construction.
- FRP implementation.
General Observations

- Facility had implemented best management practices;
  - Tank integrity/pipe testing.
  - Adequate secondary containment.
  - Tanks had been constructed in accordance with industry standards based upon the SPCC Plan review.
Issues of Concern

- Piping extending through secondary containment wall.
- QI activities.
- Management oversight.
- Improper description of security at facility.
- Use indigenous personnel.
Murphy, Meraux Terminal
Oil Spill from Tank #250-2
Murphy Oil, Meraux Refinery
Containment Capacity: 19,300,000 gallons

Containment Capacity: 18,900,000 gallons

Combined containment capacity: 38,200,000 gallons
Southern Louisiana
Significant and Substantial Harm FRP facilities
Future Challenges

- Budgetary constraints.
- Regulatory implementation under the revised SPCC regulations for facilities and the Agency alike.
- Targeting facilities for inspection.
- Increased incidents related to natural disasters.
- Shortages of response resources during large events.
- Understanding, preventing, planning, preparing and responding to catastrophic spill events.
- There no such thing as a impermeable fence.