

## Overall Office of Recommendations Talking Points

### Recommendations

- The CSB currently has a ratio of 83% (697) recommendations closed and 17% in open status (144) (Total is 841).
- The status of all of our recommendations can be found on our website at [www.csb.gov/recommendations](http://www.csb.gov/recommendations).
- Recommendations that have been recently voted on can be found on the recommendations page on the “Recent Recommendations Status Update” page. Each recommendation has a “Status Change Summary” that describes the rationale for the Board vote.

### CSB Advocacy Product –

April 20, 2020, was the 10-year anniversary of the Blowout and Explosion from the Macondo oil well. This was a multiple-fatality incident that occurred approximately 50 miles off the coast of Louisiana in the Gulf of Mexico during temporary well-abandonment activities on the Deepwater Horizon (DWH) drilling rig. Control of the well was lost, resulting in a “blowout;” the uncontrolled release of oil and gas (hydrocarbons) from the well. On the rig, the hydrocarbons found an ignition source. The resulting explosions and fire led to the deaths of 11 individuals, serious physical injuries to 17 others, the evacuation of 115 individuals from the rig, the sinking of the Deepwater Horizon, and massive marine and coastal damage from approximately 4 million barrels of released hydrocarbons. From the 4-volume investigation report, the CSB issued 16 recommendations. 9 of which were to the Department of Interior’s (DOI’s) Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). One of which was CSB Recommendation No. 2010-10-I-OS-R7 (R7), which says:

*Drawing upon best available global standards and practices, develop guidance addressing the roles and responsibilities of corporate board of directors and executives for effective major accident prevention. Among other topics, this standard shall provide specific guidance on how boards and executives could best communicate major accident safety risks to their stakeholders, as well as corporate level strategies to effectively manage those risks.*

- On March 22, 2017, BSEE informed the CSB that BSEE could not implement R7 because they did not think they had the jurisdiction.
- On Oct. 2, 2017, Notational Item 2018-1 was distributed to the Board to change the status of R7 to ‘Closed – Unacceptable Response/No Response Received.’
- On Oct. 10, 2017, a Board Member voted to ‘calendar’ the NI to discuss at the upcoming public meeting.
- On Nov. 14, 2017, during a public meeting the Board voted to approve a motion to change the status of the recommendation to ‘Closed – Unacceptable Response/No Response Received.’
- Following the public meeting, in an effort to demonstrate our commitment to the importance and positive impact of this recommendation, the Board committed to the development of the recommended guidance by CSB staff.

As a result, we released the CSB product entitled, “CSB Best Practice Guidance for Corporate Boards of Directors and Executives in the Offshore Oil and Gas Industry for Major Accident Prevention” on the 10-year anniversary date.

### FY20 Recommendations Statuses

#### Closed Recommendations –

- **3** acceptable
- **1** unacceptable

### **Advanced Recommendations -**

- **2** with acceptable responses
- **5** with unacceptable responses

### **Board Votes**

- To date the Board has voted on **11** recommendations.
- Recommendations that were voted on this fiscal year were from the following investigations/studies:
  - AL Solutions Fatal Dust Explosion (4)
  - Donaldson Enterprises, Inc. Fatal Fireworks Disassembly Explosion and Fire (1)
  - Public Safety at Oil and Gas Storage Facilities (1)
  - Macondo Blowout and Explosion (1)
  - Arkema Inc. Chemical Plant Fire (1)
  - Gas Well Blowout and Fire at Pryor Trust Well 1H-9 (2)
  - NDK Crystal Inc. – High Pressure Vessel Rupture (1)