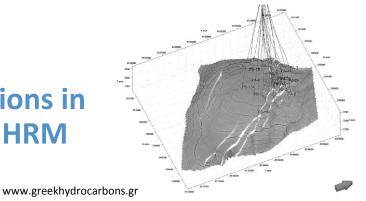




3<sup>rd</sup> SE Europe Hydrocarbons Upstream Workshop

30-31 OCTOBER 2018

## Safety of Offshore Hydrocarbon Operations in Greece: the role of HHRM



Dr Katerina Kostakis Geoscientist





01	02	03	04	05
Offshore Safety Legislation	The role of the Competent Authority	HHRM regulatory actions	Emergency Response	International Collaborations
<ul> <li>European Directive 2013/30/EU</li> <li>Greek Law 4409/2016</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Responsibilities</li> <li>Actions for effective oversight</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Assessment of Safety reports</li> <li>Inspections</li> <li>Issuing of Guidance to Industry</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>External Emergency Response Plans</li> <li>Collaboration with Operators and other governmental authorities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>EUOAG</li> <li>UNMIG – ITALY</li> <li>CRU – IRELAND</li> <li>CYPRUS</li> </ul>



- Directive 2013/30/EU on offshore safety was introduced following the Macondo accident in 2010
- The objectives of the Directive were the consistent use of best practices across Member States and the strengthening EU's preparedness and response, with a focus on Major Accidents
- National governments were required to put their law in place to meet the EU Directive requirements
- Greek Law 4409/2016 transposed and closely follows the EU Directive



- HHRM as Competent Authority of L. 4409/2016 is responsible for the following regulatory functions:
  - Assessing Reports on Major Hazards, design notifications, notifications of well operations & notifications of combined operations
  - Overseeing compliance by operators and owners of the Greek Offshore Safety Law, through inspections, investigation and enforcement actions
  - Advising other authorities or bodies
  - Making annual plans for effective oversight
  - Cooperating with other EU Competent Authorities
  - Proposing the issuing of safety regulations and regulatory acts



- HHRM has concluded its collaboration with DNV GL, an international expert, to organize the monitoring of the existing offshore operations in Greece. The tender was carried out by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development ("EBRD")
- As a result of its collaboration with DNV GL, HHRM has published a series of Guidance documents, which aim to assist the Oil & Gas operators and owners in Greece to fulfil their regulatory duties, with the ultimate goal of safe installations and minimizing of potential hazards and their consequences



- Requirements of Reports on Major Hazards & Notifications
- Thorough Review
- Verification
- ALARP (risk assessment)

#### **Internal Procedures**

- Assessment of Reports on Major Hazards & Notifications
- Incident Investigation
- Enforcement



- In 2018, HHRM successfully assessed the safety reports of all currently operating fixed and mobile installations in Greece in the area of Prinos.
  - Assessment was concluded by 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018, the deadline set by the European Commission for all existing installations operating in the EU
  - HHRM is currently assessing the notification for a new installation at the design stage and Notifications for new Well Operations
- In 2019, the assessment of the safety reports for the drilling rig and the well operation in Patraikos Gulf is expected
- Assessment of the safety report of the new platform in Prinos is also expected in 2019
- Offshore activities in Block 2 will follow, which will also be regulated by the Offshore Safety Law
- In the future, offshore activities in the newly-tendered blocks in the lonian Sea and in the South of Crete are expected

#### **Inspections of Offshore Installations**



- Part of HHRM's regulatory role includes the inspections of all the offshore installations operating in Greece
- The aim is to ensure on-site implementation of the safety measures included in the submitted safety reports
- HHRM will be concluding its inspections of all operating production installations and drilling rigs in the area of Prinos in December 2018
- In 2019, a new round of inspections will commence, where new installations will be inspected for the first time, while other installations will be revisited in order to guarantee continuous compliance with the law



HHRM has initiated a collaboration with relevant Greek authorities in order to prepare an External Emergency Response Plan covering all offshore oil and gas installations within its jurisdiction

- The authorities that have been invited include representatives from the relevant ministries and departments
- In order to successfully carry out this important task, HHRM has secured the assistance of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission
- A meeting of international experts from JRC with representatives of the Greek authorities and the operators took place last week, with the aim to identify current gaps in emergency response procedures



- HHRM actively participates in EU Offshore Authorities Group meetings and workshops and is in regular contact with other competent authorities, exchanging expertise and experience in several technical and regulatory issues
- Taking extremely seriously the issue of offshore safety in the wider eastern Mediterranean region, HHRM has launched targeted partnerships with neighbouring European countries

#### **Collaboration with Mediterranean Countries**



- In June 2018, a Joint Statement on Cooperation was signed between HHRM and the DGS-UNMIG of the Ministry of Economic Development of the Italian Republic on the matter of safety of offshore hydrocarbon operations, prevention of major accidents and decommissioning
- Collaboration with Cyprus has also been initiated, both with the Cyprus Hydrocarbon Company on the issue of training for safe Offshore O&G operations, and with the Cyprus Ministry of the Environment on transboundary pollution issues and the collaboration on Emergency Response mechanisms



- A new collaboration has recently been launched with the Croatian Hydrocarbon Agency, the Cyprus Ministry of Labour and a number of authorities, research organisations and companies from Italy, France and Egypt
- The focus is on safety, surveillance, and maintenance of pipelines, through the development of best practices and definition of standards and common principles



- The most recent collaboration is with the Competent Authority of Ireland, concentrating on the development of effective investigation procedures and cyber-security
- In parallel, HHRM is hoping to participate in upcoming safety drills with the UK Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning (OPRED)
  - These drills are part of routine preparedness tests organized with the operators in the UK in order to assess the readiness level of all involved bodies and authorities and identify possible organizational and response gaps

#### **Future Priorities**

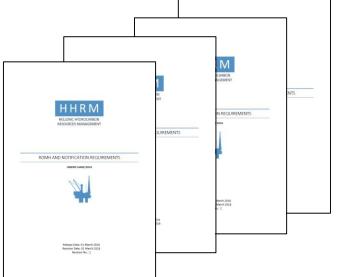


- HHRM's priority for the immediate future is the preparation of detailed procedures for incident investigation
- The preparation and implementation of coordinated procedures is planned with other authorities, such as the Ministry of Mercantile Marine, for the investigation of any potential incident, in order to
  - Establish lines of communication during each authority's respective investigative process
  - Share information where possible between authorities to aid the investigation process
  - Ensure effective co-ordination of incident investigation processes

# **Sharing of Information**



 HHRM's website has a section dedicated to Offshore Safety offering information for the public and for the operators. The information includes the annual plan, the annual incident reporting and the guidance documents



 The website also includes information on the mechanism for confidential reporting of safety and environmental concerns for the employees and contractors connected with offshore operations in Greece. A dedicated email address (confidential.reporting@greekhydrocarbons.gr) has been created for this purpose

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

# HHRM

HELLENIC HYDROCARBON RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

www.greekhydrocarbons.gr OffshoreSafety@greekhydrocarbons.gr



18, D .Margari Str. , 11525, Athens, Greece | T. (+30) 210 6717591