



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594
Office of Marine Safety

Date: 10/18/2006

Place: Morgan City, LA (phone)

Person Interviewed: Lynn Langlois, Captain of T/V *Miss Joann*

Interview Conducted By: Liam LaRue,
Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board

INTRODUCTION

Lynn Langlois was interviewed in conjunction with the Marine Board of Investigation concerning the *Athena 106 barge*. The text that follows is not a verbatim record of the conversation. It has been developed from my handwritten notes of the conversation and is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

INTERVIEW

- Works for South Central Towing as the Captain of the *Miss Joanne*
- Has worked there for 2 years
- Miss Joanne is 60-ft long, 25-ft wide, 600 HP engine
- Worked for N. Bark Towing in Morgan City for 2 ½ years prior
- When the accident occurred he was on his way to pick up a hammer for a rig
- 1 mile from accident when it happened
- Took 45 minutes to an hour to get to the fire because he couldn't cut across the oil field – went around because he didn't know what was going on in the field
- Arrived at the fire around 1300
- The tow boat and barges were still on fire and the fire was going strong
- Creosote pilings were burning and the inside of the tow were on fire
- The Miss Megan and deck barge broke away from the Spud barge – his uncle on the Yancy O towed it away

- It was towed to a perimeter light ¼ mile away (a 4 piling cluster with a blinking light on a platform – marks the perimeter of oil field)
- His vessel has a fire pump and one hose on board – they put water on the tow boat and creosote pilings
- Yancy O was there before him – probably 35 minutes prior to his arrival
- The Jack-boat Tiger got there just after the Miss Joann
- Firefighting went on for 3 ½ to 4 hours.
- Spud barge was still burning when the tow and deck barge were pulled away
- 2 ½ - 3 hours of firefighting on the tow and deck barge, then they spent around 1 hour fire fighting on the 106 barge
- No one else around has the capability to put out a vessel fire except the tow boats
- There are no fire boats and the Coast Guard does not have the equipment necessary
- Police boats don't have fire fighting capability
- St. Mary's Hazmat went on the 106 barge after the fire went out
- He didn't hear the explosion, but saw the fire immediately because he was heading in the direction of where it happened
- Fought the fire until around 1700
- Has a log with some information and times that will be provided to SF group chairman
- Deckhand manned the fire hose while he drove the boat.

END OF INTERVIEW

Liam LaRue