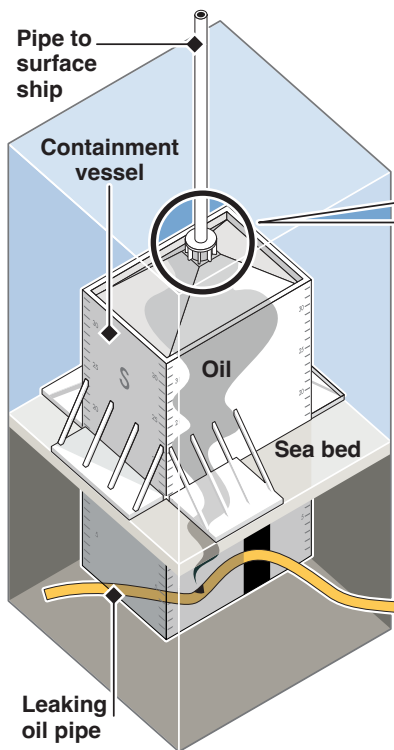
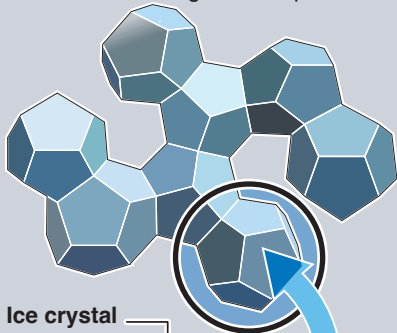


# Setback for U.S. Gulf oil containment dome

Having successfully lowered a 90-tonne containment dome over the site of the Gulf of Mexico oil leak, a crystalline slush of gas hydrates has blocked the pipe meant to carry the oil to a ship on the surface

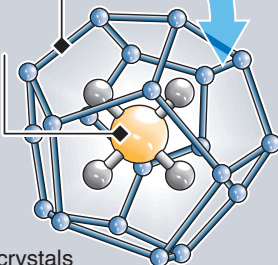


Hydrates are crystals formed at high pressure and low temperatures where water and natural gases are present



Ice crystal

Methane molecule



Methane-laced ice crystals store more energy than all world's fossil fuel reserves combined