

Sante Fe Main Office  
Phone: (505) 476-3441

General Information  
Phone: (505) 629-6116

Online Phone Directory  
<https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/ocd/contact-us>

**State of New Mexico**  
**Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources**  
**Oil Conservation Division**  
**1220 S. St Francis Dr.**  
**Santa Fe, NM 87505**

QUESTIONS

Action 491453

**QUESTIONS**

Operator: CIMAREX ENERGY CO. OF COLORADO 6001 Deauville Blvd Midland, TX 79706	OGRID: 162683
	Action Number: 491453
	Action Type: [NOTIFY] Notification Of Release (NOR)

**QUESTIONS**

Location of Release Source	
<i>Please answer all the questions in this group.</i>	
Site Name	RED HILLS UNIT 81H
Date Release Discovered	08/01/2025
Surface Owner	Federal

Incident Details	
<i>Please answer all the questions in this group.</i>	
Incident Type	Produced Water Release
Did this release result in a fire or is the result of a fire	No
Did this release result in any injuries	No
Has this release reached or does it have a reasonable probability of reaching a watercourse	No
Has this release endangered or does it have a reasonable probability of endangering public health	No
Has this release substantially damaged or will it substantially damage property or the environment	No
Is this release of a volume that is or may with reasonable probability be detrimental to fresh water	No

Nature and Volume of Release	
<i>Material(s) released, please answer all that apply below. Any calculations or specific justifications for the volumes provided should be attached to the follow-up C-141 submission.</i>	
Crude Oil Released (bbls) Details	Not answered.
Produced Water Released (bbls) Details	Cause: Equipment Failure   Fitting   Produced Water   Released: 71 BBL   Recovered: 70 BBL   Lost: 1 BBL.
Is the concentration of chloride in the produced water >10,000 mg/l	Yes
Condensate Released (bbls) Details	Not answered.
Natural Gas Vented (Mcf) Details	Not answered.
Natural Gas Flared (Mcf) Details	Not answered.
Other Released Details	Not answered.
Are there additional details for the questions above (i.e. any answer containing Other, Specify, Unknown, and/or Fire, or any negative lost amounts)	We experienced a reportable release at the Red Hills Unit 81H. While Halliburton crews were conducting stage 3 of the fracking operation, the WCU flange connected to the monoline failed, resulting in a fluid release onto the well pad. All pumping operations were halted immediately, and the well was successfully shut in within three minutes of the incident. Preliminary assessments suggest that a hydraulic leak on the WCU may have caused the locking head to malfunction. Unfortunately, all four locking pins also failed, allowing the WCU to detach from the joint. Halliburton is currently investigating the root cause of this failure. The incident led to the estimated release of 71 barrels of produced water onto the well pad. Fortunately, vacuum trucks were able to immediately recover 70 barrels of this fluid. Remediation of the affected soils will be conducted once completion and flowback operations have concluded at the site.

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**QUESTIONS (continued)**

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<b>Nature and Volume of Release (continued)</b>	
Is this a gas only submission (i.e. only significant Mcf values reported)	No, according to supplied volumes this does not appear to be a "gas only" report.
Was this a major release as defined by Subsection A of 19.15.29.7 NMAC	Yes
Reasons why this would be considered a submission for a notification of a major release	From paragraph A. "Major release" determine using: (1) an unauthorized release of a volume, excluding gases, of 25 barrels or more.
With the implementation of the 19.15.27 NMAC (05/25/2021), venting and/or flaring of natural gas (i.e. gas only) are to be submitted on the C-129 form.	

**Initial Response**

The responsible party must undertake the following actions immediately unless they could create a safety hazard that would result in injury.

The source of the release has been stopped	True
The impacted area has been secured to protect human health and the environment	True
Released materials have been contained via the use of berms or dikes, absorbent pads, or other containment devices	True
All free liquids and recoverable materials have been removed and managed appropriately	True
If all the actions described above have not been undertaken, explain why	Not answered.

Per Paragraph 4 of Subsection B of 19.15.29.8 NMAC the responsible party may commence remediation immediately after discovery of a release. If remediation has begun, please prepare and attach a narrative of actions to date in the follow-up C-141 submission. If remedial efforts have been successfully completed or if the release occurred within a lined containment area (see 19.15.29.11(A)(5)(a) NMAC), please prepare and attach all information needed for closure evaluation in the follow-up C-141 submission.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I acknowledge that I am authorized to submit notification of a release on behalf of my operator.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I acknowledge that upon submitting this application, I will be creating a new incident file (assigned to my operator) to track the notification(s) and corrective action(s) for a release, pursuant to NMAC 19.15.29.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I acknowledge that creating a new incident file will require my operator to file subsequent submission(s) of form "C-141, Application for administrative approval of a release notification and corrective action", pursuant to NMAC 19.15.29.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I hereby certify that the information given above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and understand that pursuant to OCD rules and regulations all operators are required to report and/or file certain release notifications and perform corrective actions for releases which may endanger public health or the environment.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I acknowledge the fact that the acceptance of a C-141 report by the OCD does not relieve the operator of liability should their operations have failed to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that pose a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health or the environment.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I acknowledge the fact that, in addition, OCD acceptance of a C-141 report does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.

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CONDITIONS

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CONDITIONS

Created By	Condition	Condition Date
lluig	When submitting future reports regarding this release, please submit the calculations used or specific justification for the volumes reported on the initial C-141.	8/1/2025