

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

Form C-141  
Revised August 24, 2018  
Submit to appropriate OCD District office

District I  
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240  
District II  
811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210  
District III  
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410  
District IV  
1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505

Incident ID	NRM2005655333
District RP	
Facility ID	
Application ID	

## Release Notification

### Responsible Party

Responsible Party Ascent Energy	OGRID 325830
Contact Name Alex Yancey	Contact Telephone 720-710-8984
Contact email ayancey@ascentenergy.us	Incident # (assigned by OCD)
Contact mailing address 1125 17 <sup>th</sup> Suite 410 Denver, CO 80202	

### Location of Release Source

Latitude 32.507592° N

Longitude 103.614428° W

(NAD 83 in decimal degrees to 5 decimal places)

Site Name Toque State Com	Site Type Facilities Location
Date Release Discovered 2-19-2020	API# (if applicable)

Unit Letter	Section	Township	Range	County
L	7	21S	33E	Lea

Surface Owner: ☒ State ☐ Federal ☐ Tribal ☐ Private (Name: \_\_\_\_\_)

### Nature and Volume of Release

Materials Released (select all that apply and attach calculations or specific justification for the volumes provided below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Crude Oil	Volume Released (bbls)	Volume Recovered (bbls)
<input type="checkbox"/> Produced Water	Volume Released (bbls)	Volume Recovered (bbls)
	Is the concentration of dissolved chloride in the produced water >10,000 mg/l?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Condensate	Volume Released (bbls)	Volume Recovered (bbls)
<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Gas	Volume Released (Mcf)	Volume Recovered (Mcf)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)	Volume/Weight Released (provide units)	Volume/Weight Recovered (provide units)

#### Cause of Release

Ignited hydrocarbon release from flare burning caliche and nearby forklift.

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Was this a major release as defined by 19.15.29.7(A) NMAC?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, for what reason(s) does the responsible party consider this a major release?

If YES, was immediate notice given to the OCD? By whom? To whom? When and by what means (phone, email, etc)?

## 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.
- ☒ The impacted area has been secured to protect human health and the environment.
- ☐ Released materials have been contained via the use of berms or dikes, absorbent pads, or other containment devices.
- ☒ All free liquids and recoverable materials have been removed and managed appropriately.

If all the actions described above have not been undertaken, explain why:

The fire from the flare was immediately extinguished and effected area did not leave location. Berms, dikes and absorbent pad were not applicable. Forklift and burned caliche were removed from location. Additional caliche was added to pad.

Not Accepted

Per 19.15.29.8 B. (4) NMAC the responsible party may commence remediation immediately after discovery of a release. If remediation has begun, please attach a narrative of actions to date. 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 attach all information needed for closure evaluation.

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. 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. 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.

Printed Name: Alex Yancey

Title: Vice President Engineering

Signature: 

Date: 2-21-2020

email: ayancey@ascentenergy.us

Telephone: 720-710-8984

### OCD Only

Received by: Ramona Marcus

Date: 2/25/2020

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## Site Assessment/Characterization

*This information must be provided to the appropriate district office no later than 90 days after the release discovery date.*

What is the shallowest depth to groundwater beneath the area affected by the release?	643 (ft bgs)
Did this release impact groundwater or surface water?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release within 300 feet of a continuously flowing watercourse or any other significant watercourse?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release within 200 feet of any lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release within 300 feet of an occupied permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release within 500 horizontal feet of a spring or a private domestic fresh water well used by less than five households for domestic or stock watering purposes?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release within 1000 feet of any other fresh water well or spring?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release within incorporated municipal boundaries or within a defined municipal fresh water well field?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release within 300 feet of a wetland?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release overlying a subsurface mine?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release overlying an unstable area such as karst geology?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are the lateral extents of the release within a 100-year floodplain?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Did the release impact areas <b>not</b> on an exploration, development, production, or storage site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Attach a comprehensive report (electronic submittals in .pdf format are preferred) demonstrating the lateral and vertical extents of soil contamination associated with the release have been determined. Refer to 19.15.29.11 NMAC for specifics.


### **Characterization Report Checklist:** *Each of the following items must be included in the report.*

- ☐ Scaled site map showing impacted area, surface features, subsurface features, delineation points, and monitoring wells.
- ☐ Field data
- ☐ Data table of soil contaminant concentration data
- ☐ Depth to water determination
- ☐ Determination of water sources and significant watercourses within ½-mile of the lateral extents of the release
- ☐ Boring or excavation logs
- ☐ Photographs including date and GIS information
- ☐ Topographic/Aerial maps
- ☐ Laboratory data including chain of custody

If the site characterization report does not include completed efforts at remediation of the release, the report must include a proposed remediation plan. That plan must include the estimated volume of material to be remediated, the proposed remediation technique, proposed sampling plan and methods, anticipated timelines for beginning and completing the remediation. The closure criteria for a release are contained in Table 1 of 19.15.29.12 NMAC, however, use of the table is modified by site- and release-specific parameters.

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Printed Name: Alex Yancey Title: Vice President Engineering  
Signature:  Date: 2-21-2020  
email: ayancey@ascentenergy.us Telephone: 720-710-8984

**OCD Only**

Received by: Ramona Marcus Date: 02/25/2020

# Not Accepted

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## Remediation Plan

**Remediation Plan Checklist:** *Each of the following items must be included in the plan.*

- ☐ Detailed description of proposed remediation technique
- ☐ Scaled sitemap with GPS coordinates showing delineation points
- ☐ Estimated volume of material to be remediated
- ☐ Closure criteria is to Table 1 specifications subject to 19.15.29.12(C)(4) NMAC
- ☐ Proposed schedule for remediation (note if remediation plan timeline is more than 90 days OCD approval is required)

**Deferral Requests Only:** *Each of the following items must be confirmed as part of any request for deferral of remediation.*

- ☐ Contamination must be in areas immediately under or around production equipment where remediation could cause a major facility deconstruction.
- ☐ Extents of contamination must be fully delineated.
- ☒ Contamination does not cause an imminent risk to human health, the environment, or groundwater.

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Signature:  Date: 2-21-2020

email: ayancey@ascentenergy.us Telephone: 720-710-8984

**OCD Only**

Received by: Ramona Marcus Date: 02/25/2020

☐ Approved ☐ Approved with Attached Conditions of Approval ☐ Denied ☐ Deferral Approved

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Not Accepted



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## Closure

The responsible party must attach information demonstrating they have complied with all applicable closure requirements and any conditions or directives of the OCD. This demonstration should be in the form of a comprehensive report (electronic submittals in .pdf format are preferred) including a scaled site map, sampling diagrams, relevant field notes, photographs of any excavation prior to backfilling, laboratory data including chain of custody documents of final sampling, and a narrative of the remedial activities. Refer to 19.15.29.12 NMAC.

**Closure Report Attachment Checklist:** *Each of the following items must be included in the closure report.*

- ☐ A scaled site and sampling diagram as described in 19.15.29.11 NMAC
- ☐ Photographs of the remediated site prior to backfill or photos of the liner integrity if applicable (Note: appropriate OCD District office must be notified 2 days prior to liner inspection)
- ☐ Laboratory analyses of final sampling (Note: appropriate ODC District office must be notified 2 days prior to final sampling)
- ☐ Description of remediation activities

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. 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. 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. The responsible party acknowledges they must substantially restore, reclaim, and re-vegetate the impacted surface area to the conditions that existed prior to the release or their final land use in accordance with 19.15.29.13 NMAC including notification to the OCD when reclamation and re-vegetation are complete.

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Title: Vice President Engineering

Signature: 

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email: ayancey@ascentenergy.us

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Closure approval by the OCD does not relieve the responsible party of liability should their operations have failed to adequately investigate and remediate contamination that poses a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health, or the environment nor does not relieve the responsible party of compliance with any other federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.

Closure Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Not Accepted**

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## FIRST REPORT OF RELEASE / FIRE

☐ Drilling ☒ Completions ☐ Production ☐ Midstream

## INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

During flowback operations the 3rd party flowback operator A instructed flowback operator B to increase the choke setting on the second train of the 701H well. Flowback operator A then drove his truck over to the production facilities where he noticed that the oil level in the free water knock out was above the sight glass and the pressure on the vessel was 40-45 psi. Operator A then opened up belly dumps on free water knock out, heater treater and sales gas scrubber. Operator A then checked the back-pressure valve and noticed it was fully open so he closed the back-pressure valve to increase the pressure on the vessel to 70-75 psi. Operator A then checked the heater treater and noticed that the sight glass showed that it was full of oil so he walked over to the Well Site Leaders office and consulted him. The decision was made to take the oil and gas stream back to the flowback equipment. While making his way to accomplish this, at approximately 20:40 hours, the flowback operator observed burning oil coming from the facility's flare stack. Other flowback crew members moved to immediately shut in the 701H and the 601H wells while he went back to the free water knock out and opened the water dump. He then went to the heater treater and opened the water dump on it before evacuating to the muster area. Once all personnel on location were accounted for at the muster area, the Ascent Energy Well Site Leader called the fire department at 20:49 hours. He then instructed the Ascent Safety Advisor to meet the emergency vehicles at the highway. Burning oil from the flare stack fell onto the ground in the northwest corner of location. Some burning oil, carried by the wind, landed on a unoccupied forklift that was parked approximately 65-70 feet away from the flare stack causing it to burn. Emergency fire fighters arrived on location at 21:42 hours and extinguished the fire by 21:55 hours. \*Note\* Train #1 was delivering fluid to the facilities not train #2. No injuries occurred from the incident and no hydrocarbons or any fluids discharged from the Toque State Com well pad.

## WHERE

Well Pad Name or Location:	Toque State Com
API # or Lease# or Agency ID#:	30-025-44789
GPS coordinates:	32.507592°N, 103.614428°W

## WHEN

Date: 02/19/20	Time: 8:30 Pm
Weather conditions:	cool / clear
Wind Speed:	8 -10 mph

## RELEASE DETAILS

Substance Name:	Oil
Substance Class:	CAS Number: 8002-05-09
Source:	Ascent Energy
Location (containment, onsite, offsite, land, surface water)	Onsite, ground surface below facilities flare stack.
Quantity released:	
Quantity recovered:	None
Onsite area affected (sq.ft)	2,108
Offsite area affected (sq.ft)	None
Probable cause:	Oil to to facilities flare

## INITIAL DISCOVERY MADE BY:

Name/Company:	EnerCorp
If not AE, phone number:	(432) 279-1006
email address:	
Street Address/P.O. Box:	5910 N FM 1788
City: Midland	State/Zip: Texas 79707

## WITNESSES

#1: George Tucker	#3: Tony Silver
#2: Daniel Barrera	#4: Taylor Hearn

## FIRE

☒ Yes ☐ No

## PROPERTY DAMAGE

☒ Yes ☐ No

Extinguish Method: Water

If yes, specify:

Ignition source: Facilities flare stack

3rd party Forklift, elect box and wiring on facilities flare stack.

## RESPONDERS

Impacted gravel, soil excavation by:	Perry's Oilfield Services
Liquids removal by:	No liquids Removed
Fire fighting by:	Eunice Fire Dept.

## VERBAL NOTIFICATIONS MADE:

Agency Name:	State of New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department.	Agency Name:	
Agency Phone:	(505) 476-3200	Agency Phone:	
Agency Report #:		Agency Report #:	
Date/Time:	2/20/2020	Date/Time:	

## PRELIMINARY CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Action	Due (or Complete) Date	Responsible Person
Shut down all flowback operations for facilities evaluation.	2/19/2020	Ascent Energy

Report Completed By:	Scotty Crader	Date of Completion:	2/21/2020
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