# **EVENT SPECIFIC JUSTIFICATIONS FORM**

Facility: South Hobbs Plant

**Start Date:** 02/01/2022 @ 05:15 PM **End Date:** 02/01/2022 @ 05:32 PM

Cause: THE NORTH PLANT FLARED DUE TO "B" TRAIN SHUTTING DOWN ON A 1ST STAGE SUCTION

SCRUBBER HIGH/HIGH ALARM LAGG2212.

**Duration of event:** 0:14 hours

Method of Flared Gas Measurement: Flare Meter

# 1. Reason why this event was beyond Operator's control:

The emissions event was caused by the unforeseen, unexpected, sudden, and unavoidable breakdown of equipment or process that was beyond the owner/operator's control, and did not stem from activity that could have been foreseen and avoided, and could not have been avoided by good design, operation, and preventative maintenance practices. It is OXY's policy to route all stranded sales gas to a flare during an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency or malfunction, in order to minimize emissions as much as possible. The flare is regularly monitored to the ensure flame is lit and meeting opacity requirements.

This event was a sudden and unforeseeable compressor malfunction of "B" Train compressor unit. Oxy operators were alerted to a malfunction of the compressor unit when an alarm started going off indicating a high/high alarm in the 1<sup>st</sup> suction scrubber and a malfunction of the unit. An Oxy operator quickly arrived at the facility and began to immediately inspect the unit and reading the shutdown alarms. Oxy operator determined that the compressor unit would need to be shut down so that he could perform a thorough inspection of the unit to determine exact cause involving the high/high alarm in the 1<sup>st</sup> suction scrubber. OXY operators assisted with shutting down the unit, and this shut down of the malfunctioning compressor unit triggered a flaring event. After thoroughly inspecting the compressor unit, the Oxy operator brought the unit back to normal working service. OXY personnel were in place and available at the facility location when compressor unit was returned to working service.

Notwithstanding proper gas compressor design and operation, various forms of mechanical or technical issues can be sudden, reasonably unforeseeable and unexpected which can cause compressor unit malfunctions to occur without warning or advance notice. OXY made every effort to control and minimize emissions as much as possible during this event.

## 2. Steps Taken to limit duration and magnitude of venting or flaring:

The emissions event was caused by the unforeseen, unexpected, sudden, and unavoidable breakdown of equipment or process that was beyond the owner/operator's control, and did not stem from activity that could have been foreseen and avoided, and could not have been avoided by good design, operation, and preventative maintenance practices. It is OXY's policy to route all stranded sales gas to a flare during an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency or malfunction, in order to minimize emissions as much as possible. The flare is regularly monitored to the ensure flame is lit and meeting opacity requirements.

In this case, the steps taken to limit duration and magnitude of flaring was for Oxy operators to quickly respond to the compression equipment malfunction alarms by quickly contacting the operator that the compressor unit was rising, and a malfunction alarm was occurring. An Oxy operator quickly arrived at the facility and began to immediately inspect the unit and reading the shutdown alarms. Oxy operator determined that the compressor unit would need to be shut down so that he could perform a thorough inspection of the unit to determine exact cause involving the alarms. OXY operators assisted with shutting down the unit, and this shut down of the malfunctioning compressor unit triggered a flaring event. In addition to shutting Train "B" compressor unit down, OXY routed all the stranded sales gas to a flare with a 98% combustion efficiency in order to lessen emissions as much as possible. The flare is regularly monitored to ensure the flame is lit and meeting opacity requirements. After thoroughly inspecting the malfunctioning compressor unit for any other possible reasons the compressor unit might be getting shutdown alarms. After inspecting and troubleshooting the compressor unit, the operator brought the unit back to normal working service.

Notwithstanding proper gas compressor design and operation, various forms of mechanical or technical issues can be sudden, reasonably unforeseeable and unexpected which can cause compressor unit malfunctions to occur without warning or advance notice. OXY made every effort to control and minimize emissions as much as possible during this event.

# 3. Corrective Actions taken to eliminate the cause and reoccurrence of venting or flaring:

The emissions event was caused by the unforeseen, unexpected, sudden, and unavoidable breakdown of equipment or process that was beyond the owner/operator's control, and did not stem from activity that could have been foreseen and avoided, and could not have been avoided by good design, operation, and preventative maintenance practices. It is OXY's policy to route all stranded sales gas to a flare during an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency or malfunction, in order to minimize emissions as much as possible. The flare is regularly monitored to the ensure the flame is lit and meeting opacity requirements.

Oxy cannot take any corrective actions to eliminate the cause and potential reoccurrence of compressor malfunctions as notwithstanding proper gas compressor design and operation, various forms of mechanical or technical issues can be sudden, reasonably unforeseeable and unexpected which can cause compressor unit malfunctions to occur without warning or advance notice. Oxy continually strives to maintain and operate its facility equipment in a manner consistent with good practices for minimizing emissions and reducing the number of emission events. Train "B" was working as designed and operated normally prior to the sudden and without warning malfunction of the compressor unit. Oxy has a strong and positive compression equipment preventative maintenance program in place. This incident was completely out of OXY's control to prevent from happening as it was determined the malfunction occurred due to a high/high alarm in the 1st stage suction scrubber. OXY made every effort to control and minimize emissions as much as possible during this event. The only actions that Oxy can take and handle that is within its control, is to keep continue with its compression equipment preventative maintenance program for this unit.

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District III 1000 Rio Brazos Rd., Aztec, NM 87410 Phone:(505) 334-6178 Fax:(505) 334-6170

1220 S. St Francis Dr., Santa Fe, NM 87505 Phone:(505) 476-3470 Fax:(505) 476-3462

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

DEFINITIONS

Action 81644

#### **DEFINITIONS**

Operator:	OGRID:
OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD	157984
P.O. Box 4294	Action Number:
Houston, TX 772104294	81644
	Action Type:
	[C-129] Venting and/or Flaring (C-129)

### **DEFINITIONS**

For the sake of brevity and completeness, please allow for the following in all groups of questions and for the rest of this application:

- this application's operator, hereinafter "this operator";
- · venting and/or flaring, hereinafter "vent or flare";
- any notification or report(s) of the C-129 form family, hereinafter "any C-129 forms";
- the statements in (and/or attached to) this, hereinafter "the statements in this";
- and the past tense will be used in lieu of mixed past/present tense questions and statements.

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QUESTIONS

Action 81644

Phone:(505) 476-3470 Fax:(505) 476-3462		
Q	QUESTIONS	
Operator:		OGRID:
OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD		157984
P.O. Box 4294 Houston, TX 772104294		Action Number: 81644
		Action Type: [C-129] Venting and/or Flaring (C-129)
QUESTIONS		
Prerequisites		
Any messages presented in this section, will prevent submission of this application. Please resolve	these issues before continuing	with the rest of the questions.
Incident Well	Not answered.	
Incident Facility	[fJXK1530631838] South	h Hobbs Unit RCF
Determination of Reporting Requirements		
Answer all questions that apply. The Reason(s) statements are calculated based on your answers a	and may provide addional quidar	nce
Was this vent or flare caused by an emergency or malfunction	Yes	
Did this vent or flare last eight hours or more cumulatively within any 24-hour period from a single event	No	
Is this considered a submission for a vent or flare event	Yes, minor venting and/	or flaring of natural gas.
An operator shall file a form C-141 instead of a form C-129 for a release that, includes liquid during Was there at least 50 MCF of natural gas vented and/or flared during this event	venting and/or flaring that is or n	may be a major or minor release under 19.15.29.7 NMAC.
Did this vent or flare result in the release of <b>ANY</b> liquids (not fully and/or completely	Tes	
flared) that reached (or has a chance of reaching) the ground, a surface, a watercourse, or otherwise, with reasonable probability, endanger public health, the environment or fresh water	No	
Was the vent or flare within an incorporated municipal boundary or withing 300 feet from an occupied permanent residence, school, hospital, institution or church in existence	No	
Equipment Involved		
Primary Equipment Involved	Not answered.	
Additional details for Equipment Involved. Please specify	Not answered.	
Representative Compositional Analysis of Vented or Flared Natural Gas		
Please provide the mole percent for the percentage questions in this group.  Methane (CH4) percentage		
	4	
Nitrogen (N2) percentage, if greater than one percent	0	
Hydrogen Sulfide (H2S) PPM, rounded up	6,260	
Carbon Dioxide (C02) percentage, if greater than one percent	0	
Oxygen (02) percentage, if greater than one percent	0	
If you are venting and/or flaring because of Pipeline Specification, please provide the required spe-	cifications for each gas.	
Methane (CH4) percentage quality requirement	Not answered.	
Nitrogen (N2) percentage quality requirement	Not answered.	
Hydrogen Sufide (H2S) PPM quality requirement	Not answered.	
Carbon Dioxide (C02) percentage quality requirement	Not answered.	
Oxygen (02) percentage quality requirement	Not answered.	

QUESTIONS, Page 2

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Action 81644

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Operator:

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

**QUESTIONS** (continued)

OGRID:

157984  Action Number: 81644  Action Type:
[C-129] Venting and/or Flaring (C-129)
02/01/2022
05:15 PM
05:29 PM
0
Not answered.
Not answered.
Cause: Equipment Failure   Other (Specify)   Natural Gas Flared   Released: 110 Mcf   Recovered: 0 Mcf   Lost: 110 Mcf ]

Additional details for Measured or Estimated Volume(s). Please specify	Not answered.	
Is this a gas only submission (i.e. only significant Mcf values reported)	Yes, according to supplied volumes this appears to be a "gas only" report.	
Venting or Flaring Resulting from Downstream Activity		

Venting or Flaring Resulting from Downstream Activity	
Was this vent or flare a result of downstream activity	No
Was notification of downstream activity received by this operator	Not answered.
Downstream OGRID that should have notified this operator	Not answered.
Date notified of downstream activity requiring this vent or flare	Not answered.
Time notified of downstream activity requiring this vent or flare	Not answered.

Steps and Actions to Prevent Waste		
For this event, this operator could not have reasonably anticipated the current event and it was beyond this operator's control.	True	
Please explain reason for why this event was beyond this operator's control	The emissions event was caused by the unforeseen, unexpected, sudden, and unavoidable breakdown of equipment or process that was beyond the owner/operator's control, and did not stem from activity that could have been foreseen and avoided, and could not have been avoided by good design, operation, and preventative maintenance practices. It is OXY's policy to route all stranded sales gas to a flare during an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency or malfunction, in order to minimize emissions as much as possible. The flare is regularly monitored to the ensure flame is lit and meeting opacity requirements.	
Steps taken to limit the duration and magnitude of vent or flare	The emissions event was caused by the unforeseen, unexpected, sudden, and unavoidable breakdown of equipment or process that was beyond the owner/operator's control, and did not stem from activity that could have been foreseen and avoided, and could not have been avoided by good design, operation, and preventative maintenance practices. It is OXY's policy to route all stranded sales gas to a flare during an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency or malfunction, in order to minimize emissions as much as possible. The flare is regularly monitored to the ensure flame is lit and meeting opacity requirements.	
Corrective actions taken to eliminate the cause and reoccurrence of vent or flare	The emissions event was caused by the unforeseen, unexpected, sudden, and unavoidable breakdown of equipment or process that was beyond the owner/operator's control, and did not stem from activity that could have been foreseen and avoided, and could not have been avoided by good design, operation, and preventative maintenance practices. It is OXY's policy to route all stranded sales gas to a flare during an unforeseen and unavoidable emergency or malfunction, in order to minimize emissions as much as possible. The flare is regularly monitored to the ensure flame is lit and meeting opacity requirements.	

Action 81644

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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ı	P.O. Box 4294	Action Number:
	Houston, TX 772104294	81644
		Action Type:
ı		[C-129] Venting and/or Flaring (C-129)

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

V	I acknowledge that I am authorized to submit a <i>Venting and/or Flaring</i> (C-129) report on behalf of this operator and understand that this report can be <b>a complete</b> C-129 submission per 19.15.27.8 and 19.15.28.8 NMAC.
I acknowledge that upon submitting this application, I will be creating a new incident file (assigned to this operator) to track any C-129 forms, pursuant to 19.1 19.15.28.8 NMAC and understand that this submission meets the notification requirements of Paragraph (1) of Subsection G and F respectively.	
I hereby certify the statements in this report are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and acknowledge that any false statement may be subject to civil penalties under the Oil and Gas Act.	
I acknowledge that the acceptance of any C-129 forms by the OCD does not relieve this operator of liability should their operations have failed to adequand remediate contamination that poses a threat to groundwater, surface water, human health, or the environment.	
V	I acknowledge that OCD acceptance of any C-129 forms does not relieve this operator of responsibility for compliance with any other applicable federal, state, or local laws and/or regulations.

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CONDITIONS

Action 81644

## **CONDITIONS**

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P.O. Box 4294	Action Number:
Houston, TX 772104294	81644
	Action Type:
	[C-129] Venting and/or Flaring (C-129)

### CONDITIONS

Created By	Condition	Condition Date
ralvarado	If the information provided in this report requires an amendment, submit a [C-129] Amend Venting and/or Flaring Incident (C-129A), utilizing your incident number from this event.	2/15/2022