

District I

1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240
Phone:(575) 393-6161 Fax:(575) 393-0720

District II

811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210
Phone:(575) 748-1283 Fax:(575) 748-9720

District III

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

District IV

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

QUESTIONS

Action 179255

QUESTIONS

Operator: CIMAREX ENERGY CO. 600 N. Marienfeld Street Midland, TX 79701	OGRID: 215099
	Action Number: 179255
	Action Type: [NOTIFY] Notification Of Release (NOR)

QUESTIONS

Location of Release Source	
<i>Please answer all the questions in this group.</i>	
Site Name	Vaca Draw 20-17 Federal 1H-4H CTB
Date Release Discovered	01/23/2023
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
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 Pump Produced Water Released: 97 BBL Recovered: 80 BBL Lost: 17 BBL.
Is the concentration of dissolved 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)	The Lease Operator arrived on location and found water spraying out of the water transfer pump. The transfer pump coupling separated from the pump and motor, causing chunks of material to throw the guard off around the coupling. A tee nipple valve on top of the pump was either struck by debris or vibrated loose and snapped off. This allowed a total of 97 barrels to be released from the pump into containment and on to the facility pad. All fluids remained on the pad. A vac truck recovered a total of 80 barrels from containment and the pad. Investigation into the coupling failure is still underway. The containment will be washed and impacted material will be scheduled for remediation in the coming weeks. Spilled: 97 barrels water (8 barrels inside containment + 89 barrels on well pad) Recovered: 80 barrels (8 barrels inside containment + 72 barrels from well pad)

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QUESTIONS (continued)

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QUESTIONS

Nature and Volume of Release (continued)	
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 19.15.29.7(A) NMAC	Yes, major release.
Reasons why this would be considered a submission for a notification of a major release	Unauthorized release of a volume, excluding gases, of 25 barrels or more
If YES, was immediate notice given to the OCD, by whom	Laci Luig
If YES, was immediate notice given to the OCD, to whom	OCD Enviro., BLM
If YES, was immediate notice given to the OCD, when	01/24/2023
If YES, was immediate notice given to the OCD, by what means (phone, email, etc.)	Email
<i>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.</i>	

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 19.15.29.8 B. (4) 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

Action 179255

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

☒	I acknowledge that I am authorized to submit notification of a releases on behalf of my operator.
☒	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.
☒	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.
☒	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.
☒	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.
☒	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.	1/24/2023