

EVENT SPECIFIC JUSTIFICATIONS FORM**Facility:** North Hobbs Plant**Start Date:** 09/06/2021 @ 12:10 AM**End Date:** 09/06/2021 @ 12:21 AM**Cause:** THE NORTH PLANT FLARED DUE TO A LOW COOLANT WATER PRESSURE ALARM SHUTTING DOWN "B" TRAIN DUE TO A BAD PUMP.**Duration of event:** 0:11 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 ensure flame is lit and meeting opacity requirements.

This event was a sudden and unforeseeable compressor malfunction of the North Plant "B" Compressor Unit due to low coolant for the compressor. The lead operator sent the outside operator to go outside and investigate the reason for the alarm. The outside operator found that there was a low level of coolant to the compressor due to a bad pump which was the reason for having a low level of coolant to the tank. A phone call was made immediately to Archrock to investigate the leak and have it repaired. The leak was determined that the unit had to be shut down for repair and could not be repaired online. OXY operator shut down the unit, and this shut down of the malfunctioning compressor unit triggered a flaring event. After thoroughly inspecting the compressor unit, Archrock determined the cause of the leak was due to a bad pump for coolant to the compressor. Archrock mechanic replaced and inspected the new pump and thoroughly inspected the compressor for any other possible reasons the compressor coolant could be showing a Level Alarm Low. After inspecting and troubleshooting the compressor unit, the compressor mechanic 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 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 Archrock, the dedicated compressor mechanics to immediately send out a compressor mechanic as the Level Alarm Low was occurring. An Archrock mechanic quickly arrived at the facility and began to immediately inspect the unit and read levels and alarms. Archrock mechanic determined that the compressor unit would need to be shut down so that he could perform a thorough inspection of the unit to determine the exact cause of the leak involving the low-level alarm. 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 down "B" Train, 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, Archrock mechanic determined the cause of the LAL 22000 Level Alarm Low was due to a bad pump for coolant to the compressor. Archrock then inspected the unit for any other possible reasons the compressor unit might be getting a low-level alarm. After inspecting and troubleshooting the compressor unit, the compressor mechanic 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 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. The North Hobbs Unit "B" Compressor 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 bad pump used for pumping coolant to the compressor. Over time components can wear and fail regardless of good preventative maintenance practices and programs. 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.

District I

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

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District IV

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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 48962

QUESTIONS

Operator: OCCIDENTAL PERMIAN LTD P.O. Box 4294 Houston, TX 772104294	OGRID: 157984
	Action Number: 48962
	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	[fKJ1517634129] NORTH HOBBS UNIT RCF/WIB

Determination of Reporting Requirements

Answer all questions that apply. The Reason(s) statements are calculated based on your answers and may provide additional guidance.

Was or is this venting and/or flaring caused by an emergency or malfunction	Yes
Did or will this venting and/or flaring last eight hours or more cumulatively within any 24-hour period from a single event	No
Is this considered a submission for a venting and/or flaring 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 venting and/or flaring that is or may be a major or minor release under 19.15.29.7 NMAC.	
Was there or will there be at least 50 MCF of natural gas vented and/or flared during this event	Yes
Did this venting and/or flaring result in the release of ANY liquids (not fully and/or completely 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 venting and/or flaring 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	7,860
Carbon Dioxide (CO2) percentage, if greater than one percent	0
Oxygen (O2) percentage, if greater than one percent	0
If you are venting and/or flaring because of Pipeline Specification, please provide the required specifications for each gas.	
Methane (CH4) percentage quality requirement	Not answered.
Nitrogen (N2) percentage quality requirement	Not answered.
Hydrogen Sulfide (H2S) PPM quality requirement	Not answered.
Carbon Dioxide (CO2) percentage quality requirement	Not answered.
Oxygen (O2) percentage quality requirement	Not answered.

Date(s) and Time(s)

Date venting and/or flaring was discovered or commenced	09/06/2021
Time venting and/or flaring was discovered or commenced	12:10 AM
Time venting and/or flaring was terminated	12:21 AM
Cumulative hours during this event	0

Measured or Estimated Volume of Vented or Flared Natural Gas

Natural Gas Vented (Mcf) Details	Not answered.
Natural Gas Flared (Mcf) Details	Not answered.

Other Released Details	Cause: Equipment Failure Pump Natural Gas Flared Released: 102 Mcf Recovered: 0 Mcf Lost: 102 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	
Was or is this venting and/or flaring a result of downstream activity	Not answered.
Was notification of downstream activity received by you or your operator	Not answered.
Downstream OGRID that should have notified you or your operator	Not answered.
Date notified of downstream activity requiring this venting and/or flaring	Not answered.
Time notified of downstream activity requiring this venting and/or flaring	Not answered.

Steps and Actions to Prevent Waste	
For this event, the operator could not have reasonably anticipated the current event and it was beyond the operator's control.	True
Please explain reason for why this event was beyond your 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 venting and/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.
Corrective actions taken to eliminate the cause and reoccurrence of venting and/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.

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CONDITIONS

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	Action Number: 48962
	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.	9/15/2021