

Sahara Operating – Russell Fed 19-30 release

We do not believe this release is classified as a “major release” as initial estimation at the time of release is approximately 20 bbls. An estimate may be determined after characterization using chloride mass and/or soil saturation and will be included in subsequent submissions. All samples were dry during characterization to 4.3 ft BGS on 11/7/2023.

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

QUESTIONS

Action 351943

QUESTIONS

Operator: SAHARA OPERATING CO P.O. Box 4130 Midland, TX 79704	OGRID: 20077
	Action Number: 351943
	Action Type: [C-141] Initial C-141 (C-141-v-Initial)

QUESTIONS

Prerequisites	
Incident ID (n#)	nAPP2331855166
Incident Name	NAPP2331855166 RUSSELL FED 19-30 RELEASE @ 0
Incident Type	Produced Water Release
Incident Status	Initial C-141 Received

Location of Release Source

Please answer all the questions in this group.

Site Name	Russell Fed 19-30 release
Date Release Discovered	10/31/2023
Surface Owner	Federal

Incident Details

Please answer all the questions in this group.

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

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.

Crude Oil Released (bbls) Details	Not answered.
Produced Water Released (bbls) Details	Cause: Other Coupling Produced Water Released: 0 BBL (Unknown Released Amount) Recovered: 0 BBL Lost: 0 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)	At approximately 11:00 a.m., a representative of Applied Construction notified Sahara Operating, Inc that during the R-O-W preparation for the installation of a buried pipeline for MPLX that will cross Sahara's surface produced water transfer line, Applied Construction discovered a release from Sahara's poly line. The release occurred at a coupling in the line which, during repair, appeared to have been split due to stress from the construction of a cross-over or being ran over by vehicles. Sahara was not notified of this pipeline crossing. We will be evaluating exactly how this release occurred and may update OCD regarding the cause. *Initial estimation at the time of release is approximately 20 bbls. An estimate may be determined after characterization using chloride mass and/or soil saturation and and will be included in subsequent submissions. All samples were dry during characterization to 4.3 ft BGS on 11/7/2023. Notice was given to Mr. Mike Bratcher via email on 11/01/2023 @ 11:58 am MST by Kristen Pope

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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 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	False
All free liquids and recoverable materials have been removed and managed appropriately	False
If all the actions described above have not been undertaken, explain why	Volume of free liquids at the surface was insufficient for recovery and quickly drained to subsoil.

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 Subparagraph (a) of Paragraph (5) of Subsection A of 19.15.29.11 NMAC), please prepare and attach all information needed for closure evaluation in the follow-up C-141 submission.

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.

I hereby agree and sign off to the above statement	Name: George Mcalpine Title: Production Manager Email: shannon@saharaoper.com Date: 06/07/2024
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QUESTIONS (continued)

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QUESTIONS**Site Characterization**

Please answer all the questions in this group (only required when seeking remediation plan approval and beyond). 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 in feet below ground surface (ft bgs)	Not answered.
What method was used to determine the depth to ground water	Not answered.
Did this release impact groundwater or surface water	Not answered.
What is the minimum distance, between the closest lateral extents of the release and the following surface areas:	
A continuously flowing watercourse or any other significant watercourse	Not answered.
Any lakebed, sinkhole, or playa lake (measured from the ordinary high-water mark)	Not answered.
An occupied permanent residence, school, hospital, institution, or church	Not answered.
A spring or a private domestic fresh water well used by less than five households for domestic or stock watering purposes	Not answered.
Any other fresh water well or spring	Not answered.
Incorporated municipal boundaries or a defined municipal fresh water well field	Not answered.
A wetland	Not answered.
A subsurface mine	Not answered.
An (non-karst) unstable area	Not answered.
Categorize the risk of this well / site being in a karst geology	Not answered.
A 100-year floodplain	Not answered.
Did the release impact areas not on an exploration, development, production, or storage site	Not answered.

Remediation Plan

Please answer all the questions that apply or are indicated. This information must be provided to the appropriate district office no later than 90 days after the release discovery date.

Requesting a remediation plan approval with this submission	No
The OCD recognizes that proposed remediation measures may have to be minimally adjusted in accordance with the physical realities encountered during remediation. If the responsible party has any need to significantly deviate from the remediation plan proposed, then it should consult with the division to determine if another remediation plan submission is required.	

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CONDITIONS

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CONDITIONS

Created By	Condition	Condition Date
nvelez	None	6/10/2024