

**From:** [Bratcher, Mike, EMNRD](#)  
**To:** [Weaver, Crystal, EMNRD](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Current-Argus: Cimarex spill inquiry  
**Date:** Friday, August 4, 2017 4:45:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**From:** Billings, Bradford, EMNRD  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2017 3:00 PM  
**To:** Majure, Allison, NMENV <[Allison.Majure@state.nm.us](mailto:Allison.Majure@state.nm.us)>; Griswold, Jim, EMNRD <[Jim.Griswold@state.nm.us](mailto:Jim.Griswold@state.nm.us)>; Wojahn, Beth, EMNRD <[Beth.Wojahn@state.nm.us](mailto:Beth.Wojahn@state.nm.us)>; Catanach, David, EMNRD <[David.Catanach@state.nm.us](mailto:David.Catanach@state.nm.us)>; McQueen, Ken, EMNRD <[Ken.McQueen@state.nm.us](mailto:Ken.McQueen@state.nm.us)>; Marks, Allison, EMNRD <[AllisonR.Marks@state.nm.us](mailto:AllisonR.Marks@state.nm.us)>; Sayer, Matthias, EMNRD <[MatthiasL.Sayer@state.nm.us](mailto:MatthiasL.Sayer@state.nm.us)>; Tongate, Butch, NMENV <[butch.tongate@state.nm.us](mailto:butch.tongate@state.nm.us)>; Bratcher, Mike, EMNRD <[mike.bratcher@state.nm.us](mailto:mike.bratcher@state.nm.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: Current-Argus: Cimarex spill inquiry

Hi,

Jim has communicated with our District II folks and made several calls to Cimarex folks (I was with him during calls). Have yet to connect with anyone from Cimarex today that has indicated much beyond what you mention below. He is in hopes of having something from them at some point today. He is currently at health clinic, but should be back soon. Maybe he will have more by then. I will make sure he routes to your questions as soon as can. I have no wisdom for you on what your next step with reporter might be. Sorry. I think, at least indirectly, OCD was likely aware yesterday anyway, perhaps sooner, but I don't recall the exact answer to that from our phone calls. But a quick check with District II folks could answer that.

Brad Billings

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**From:** Majure, Allison, NMENV  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2017 2:51 PM  
**To:** Griswold, Jim, EMNRD <[Jim.Griswold@state.nm.us](mailto:Jim.Griswold@state.nm.us)>; Wojahn, Beth, EMNRD <[Beth.Wojahn@state.nm.us](mailto:Beth.Wojahn@state.nm.us)>; Catanach, David, EMNRD <[David.Catanach@state.nm.us](mailto:David.Catanach@state.nm.us)>; McQueen, Ken, EMNRD <[Ken.McQueen@state.nm.us](mailto:Ken.McQueen@state.nm.us)>; Marks, Allison, EMNRD <[AllisonR.Marks@state.nm.us](mailto:AllisonR.Marks@state.nm.us)>; Sayer, Matthias, EMNRD <[MatthiasL.Sayer@state.nm.us](mailto:MatthiasL.Sayer@state.nm.us)>; Tongate, Butch, NMENV <[butch.tongate@state.nm.us](mailto:butch.tongate@state.nm.us)>; Billings, Bradford, EMNRD <[Bradford.Billings@state.nm.us](mailto:Bradford.Billings@state.nm.us)>; Bratcher, Mike, EMNRD <[mike.bratcher@state.nm.us](mailto:mike.bratcher@state.nm.us)>  
**Subject:** FW: Current-Argus: Cimarex spill inquiry

Jim, Beth, and Team,

The latest update I have on the Cimarex spill is Jim's summary from 3:02 yesterday:

A release of produced water with minor crude oil having an estimated total volume of

18,000 barrels occurred from a poly gathering line associated with a Cimarex SWD facility in Texas (Culberson County) about 3 miles south of the state line (Eddy County south of Malaga) on Tuesday morning, August 1<sup>st</sup>. The release was stopped. The Railroad Commission and the National Response Center were initially notified by Cimarex. The released water entered the Delaware River in Texas. The Delaware flows northeast into NM and is a tributary of the Pecos River. The flowline burst due to excess pressure. Cimarex deployed multiple booms downstream to capture oil. Surface water sampling locations were established in Texas and NM along both the Delaware and Pecos and are sampled daily. Elevated salt readings in the water have only been documented within a few hundred feet of the release. A plane was sent up to look for an oil sheen, but none was observed. The OCD district office in Artesia was not notified until today. The National Response Center contacted the NMED who then contacted me this morning. EPA Region 6 in Dallas has not sent anyone, but BLM out of Carlsbad and US Fish & Wildlife are investigating on the ground.

Shall I guide the Carlsbad reporter over to you folks for an update today? Or get busy developing a statement from the above? Please advise.

Best,  
Allison

**Allison Scott Majure**  
NMED | 505.231.8800

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**From:** Onsurez, Jessica [<mailto:jonsurez@currentargus.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 04, 2017 2:34 PM  
**To:** Majure, Allison, NMENV <[Allison.Majure@state.nm.us](mailto:Allison.Majure@state.nm.us)>  
**Subject:** Current-Argus: Cimarex spill

Allison,  
The Current-Argus is getting reports about a major spill of produced water into the Delaware River affecting NM.  
I'm reaching out to see if you can confirm receipt of a spill that we were told happened on Aug. 1 in Texas.  
Jess

Jessica A. Onsurez  
Managing Editor



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