



State
of
Colorado

Spray - DNR, Karen <karen.spray@state.co.us>

Mis-reported Spills

7 messages

Spray - DNR, Karen <karen.spray@state.co.us>

Tue, Apr 30, 2013 at 4:31 PM

To: Ann Nedrow - CDPHE <ann.nedrow@state.co.us>

Ann,

I need to report two spills that hit waters of the US last year. They were initially reported to me in December 2012 as "no impact to surface water". Due to remote location and winter weather I had not gotten to the sites yet as they were small (allegedly) and not threatening surface water, groundwater or people (again, allegedly). I received a complaint from the landowner last week and visited the sites and determined that in fact both spills reached dry washes. One a tributary to McElmo Creek and one to McElmo Creek itself. Both crude oil from flowline leaks. NOAVs are being issued for each spill to the operator and I am meeting with them tomorrow to get the cleanup moving forward. That said, CDPHE needs to be notified of this situation. Details are below. If you could route me to who has this area for CDPHE now (both are in Montezuma County - almost in Utah) I can coordinate with them.

Spill #1 - COGCC #200372184. Reported 5 bbl spilled and 3 bbl recovered; 1 bbl water spilled and 0 bbl recovered. Called a "historic spill" with an unknown extent. Allegedly reported to the COGCC on 9-7-2012, however we have no record of it in our files. Resubmitted on December 11, 2012 via fax. Landowner claims this spill occurred in summer 2012. It was a flowline crossing McElmo Creek - corrosion. Field visit on April 26, 2013 documents impacts to creek from about 37.23944 -109.02418 to 37.23912 -109.02612 or about 600 ft. No evidence of cleanup to date.

Spill #2 - COGCC #200372183. Reported unknown volume of oil spilled. Reported to the COGCC on 12/11/2012. Landowner claims spill occurred in April 2012. It was a different location on the same apparent flowline on a bluff above McElmo Creek - corrosion. Field visit on April 26, 2013 documents impacts to bluff, flowed over a sandstone cliff and about 1/4 mile down a tributary to McElmo Creek. It did not reach McElmo Creek. From about 37.24194 -109.02597 to 37.23947 -109.02689. No evidence of cleanup to date at this site either, although the flowline was repaired.

The final catch is that the properties went through a sale sometime last year. It used to be Smith Energy and was sold to Monument Global Resources (MGR).

Please let me know who I need to coordinate with at the CDPHE. I am meeting Kerry Smith of MGR tomorrow morning and the NOAVs will be issued by the end of the week.

Thanks,

Karen

—

Karen L. Spray, PG

SW Environmental Protection Specialist

Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission

P.O. Box 2651

Durango, CO 81302

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www.colorado.gov/cogcc



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

Ann Nedrow - CDPHE <ann.nedrow@state.co.us>
To: "Spray - DNR, Karen" <karen.spray@state.co.us>
Cc: Greg Stasinos <greg.stasinos@state.co.us>

Tue, Apr 30, 2013 at 5:25 PM

Your contact is John O'Rourke at email of John.o'rourke@state.co.us. I am off now and do not have his phone number

I'll copy Greg to see if he can give you a phone number.

Ann

Sent from my iPhone
Please excuse brevity, typographical errors and spelling.
[Quoted text hidden]

Stasinos - CDPHE, Greg <greg.stasinos@state.co.us>
To: Ann Nedrow - CDPHE <ann.nedrow@state.co.us>
Cc: "Spray - DNR, Karen" <karen.spray@state.co.us>

Tue, Apr 30, 2013 at 7:50 PM

Karen

After reading your email it looks like these two incidents need to be brought the attention of our Water Quality Control Division.

The District Engineer for Montezuma County is KC Kay and he can be reached at 970-248-7154 or casey.kay@state.co.us.

John O'Rourke can be reached at 970-248-7162 or john.o'rourke@state.co.us.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Greg

On Tue, Apr 30, 2013 at 7:21 PM, Ann Nedrow - CDPHE <ann.nedrow@state.co.us> wrote:

I could track down his work number but doubt it will help you. Let me know if you want it.

Ann

Sent from my iPhone
Please excuse brevity, typographical errors and spelling.

On Apr 30, 2013, at 6:34 PM, "Spray - DNR, Karen" <karen.spray@state.co.us> wrote:

I know John - or at least his wife Linda who used to work with us. I can track him down.

Thanks!!

[Quoted text hidden]

—
Greg Stasinos
Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment
Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response
303-692-3023 | greg.stasinos@state.co.us

To report a community public health emergency or hazardous substance spill event, call the 24 hour Emergency Reporting Line at: **1-877-518-5608.**

Spray - DNR, Karen <karen.spray@state.co.us>

Wed, May 1, 2013 at 10:30 AM

To: Casey Kay - CDPHE <casey.kay@state.co.us>, John O'Rourke - CDPHE <john.o'rourke@state.co.us>

Hi KC and John,

I wanted to forward on this report to you on some old, misreported spills in Montezuma County. I visited the site last Friday and discovered they actually hit waters of the State. I met with the operator this a.m. and they are going to get an environmental consultant out ASAP to begin assessment for cleanup. I am in the process of issuing NOAVs for the spills and will copy both of you once those are complete.

Please let me know what role CDPHE wants in this investigation/remediation and we will be happy to oblige. If you wish to visit the site or participate in cleanup over site I'd also be happy to take you out there. It is close to the end-of-the earth, so it's usually best to buddy up (lots of flat tires).

Just let me know.

Karen

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O'Rourke - CDPHE, John <john.o'rourke@state.co.us>

Wed, May 1, 2013 at 10:46 AM

To: "Spray - DNR, Karen" <karen.spray@state.co.us>

Cc: Casey Kay - CDPHE <casey.kay@state.co.us>

Hi Karen,

I will check with my manager in Solid Waste (Jerry Henderson), but I am guessing that since COGCC is currently following up on this, we may choose to let you continue to take the lead. We may ask for a copy of the final report, but I will let you know whether or not that is the case. I will let you know after I have heard back from Jerry. Thanks,

John O'Rourke

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—
[John O'Rourke, P.G.](#)
[Environmental Protection Specialist](#)
[Solid Waste and Materials Management Program](#)
[Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division](#)
[222 South 6th Street, Room 232](#)
[Grand Junction, CO 81502](#)
[Ph \(970\)248-7162](#)
[e-mail: John.O'Rourke@state.co.us](mailto:John.O'Rourke@state.co.us)

O'Rourke - CDPHE, John <john.o'rourke@state.co.us>

Thu, May 9, 2013 at 7:59 AM

To: "Spray - DNR, Karen" <karen.spray@state.co.us>

Good Morning Karen,

I spoke with my manager regarding the spills. He said that Solid Waste doesn't need to be involved with the spills since you and COGCC are handling it. If it is convenient, I would go ahead and take a final copy of the report for our records, just in case anything came up down the road. Thanks, and have a good rest of your week.

John O'Rourke

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—

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Spray - DNR, Karen <karen.spray@state.co.us>

Thu, May 9, 2013 at 8:04 AM

To: "O'Rourke - CDPHE, John" <john.o'rourke@state.co.us>

Thanks John. I was going to copy you on the pending workplan for cleanup if you were interested, but am more than happy just to get a final copy of the report to you once we achieve that point. I know the operator had a third party consultant out last week to prepare a workplan and we hope to begin cleanup soon.

Unless I hear other I will just send you a final report. (But if you want to review/comment on the workplan let me know).

Enjoy the rain!

Karen

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