



Follow up: Williams gas facility in Parachute Colorado --produced water/ condensate gathering line release.

1 message

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NRC Report: 1235516

Williams gas facility, Parachute Colorado, produced water/ condensate gathering line release.

Overview: Today, January 18, 2019, Williams reported a release of 5 barrels ((210 gallons) of water/condensate (low density hydrocarbon liquids which can be high in benzene) mixture from a buried gathering line at their facility near Parachute Colorado along Parachute Creek. The POC for Williams, Annette Garrigues, stated that the release was discovered in the early morning (3 am) and the pipeline was shut off and contained by 6 am. The release was in the form of a spray/mist emanating from the ground (the pipeline being buried approximately 6 feet), which impacted the surface area above the pipeline. A sheen was noted on Parachute creek. Downstream intakes were notified, and samples collected along the creek.

January 18 update at 5:30 pm from Annette Garrigues: The 5-barrel estimate has not been changed. APTIM, an emergency response contractor is assisting in the response. An attempt was made today to construct a containment berm below the spill site to contain any surface melt runoff from the impacted area. The contractor is mobilizing larger equipment tomorrow (D-3 or 4 dozer) to continue construction of the berm. Adsorbent boom was deployed earlier in the day on Parachute Creek below where sheen was observed. Some excavation around the buried pipeline has been completed. There is still excavation required to assess potential pooling of product below the pipeline.

STATE and Local Agencies: Alex Fisher of the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission had a responder in the field today and COGCC will continue to have a presence at the site through the weekend.

EPA Actions: EPA response will continue to monitor reports from the field and communicate with Williams and the State COGCC. At this point in time the spill is classified as minor (less than 1,000 gallons) discharge. It is expected that the estimate will increase once the pipeline is more thoroughly excavated. and pooling below the pipeline can be assessed. There is concern that pooled condensate below the pipeline could pose a threat to Parachute Creek through paleo channels (similar to the 2013 spill).

Media Interest: No current media interest has been noted. However, it is likely that there will be interest given the large spill of condensates that occurred in 2013 which significantly impacted Parachute Creek. Parachute Creek empties into the Colorado River several miles below the site.

Next Steps: Annette Garrigues will send out an update tomorrow to the parties (she has Dave Romero's email info). She can be contacted at 970-285-5461.