



Parachute 16" Line Rupture

1 message

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Hi,

I just wanted to give you all an update on our progress.

On 1/18/2019, our 16" gas gathering line ruptured, creating a large hole in the area of an irrigation ditch. The rupture caused fluids to be sprayed across the agricultural field, and across County Road 215 to the east. We immediately deployed a haz mat crew to begin removing contaminated dirt/snow that had been impacted by the spray. As the day progressed, snowmelt water/run off was entering the contaminated area, via a culvert underneath County Road 215 and two ditches in the agricultural field. This caused some surface contamination to flow downgradient towards Parachute Creek. Booms were deployed in Parachute Creek. Water samples were taken in the creek, upstream and downstream. Those samples have been sent to ALS Laboratories. The ditch gates were closed, a pond was dug to try to capture any water, and many absorbent materials were laid down across the site to try to stop the contamination from spreading. Various agencies were contacted.

On 1/19/2019, first action was to block the culvert under County Road 215 (east side) to stop any run off from entering the site. A vac truck was deployed to pull any water that accumulated on that side. We diverted water that appeared to be still entering a feeder ditch, and worked with Chevron to resolve the issue with the head gate. We excavated in the area down by the creek to scrape contaminated snow/dirt, so that as the day progressively got warmer, it would not melt and flow downgradient towards the creek. Crews worked to scrape other areas of the field to stockpile what we could. The ground is frozen below 3". We are trying to stockpile as much contamination snow as possible, and segregate it, so that it does not melt and flow down gradient towards the creek. Soil samples were taken, and surface water samples were taken from Parachute Creek in the same established locations. Additional booms were deployed in Parachute Creek. Minimal run off was experienced today due to the efforts made to stop water from entering the site. The hole in the ground that was created by the rupture has water in it, so we made arrangements to get it pumped out and up the hill to a transport truck.

Tomorrow, we will have the pump on site early so that they can set the pump while the ground is still frozen. The site is very muddy and we have constraints with the other pipelines in the right of way. We will pump all of the water out of the hole caused by the rupture. We will sample the water in the hole prior to pumping it out. We will continue scraping the surface and stockpiling contaminated material. We will be taking water samples in Parachute Creek, soil samples, and soil screenings as they remove dirt/snow. We will also come up with a plan for handling additional snow/rain, which appears to be in the forecast for 1/21/19. I will finalize the COGCC Form 19, and submit a map so that you can better depict the lay out of the site and the challenges.

Thank you for your patience, and I will be back in touch tomorrow.



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