

State of Colorado  
Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801, Denver, Colorado 80203  
Phone: (303) 894-2100 Fax: (303) 894-2109



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Date Issued:  
10/13/2021

## NOTICE OF ALLEGED VIOLATION - ISSUED

Per Rule 523, the Director has reasonable cause to believe that a violation of the Act, or of any Commission rule, order, or permit has occurred, the Director will require the operator to remedy the violation and may commence an enforcement action seeking penalties by issuing a Notice of Alleged Violation (NOAV). Per Rule 525, an operator who violates the Act, or a Commission rule, order, or permit may be subject to a penalty imposed by Commission order.

### OPERATOR INFORMATION

OGCC Operator Number: 96850

Name of Operator: TEP ROCKY MOUNTAIN LLC

Address: PO BOX 370

City: PARACHUTE State: CO Zip: 81635

Contact Name and Telephone:

Name: JEFFREY KIRTLAND

Phone: (970) 263-2736 Fax: ( )

Email: jkirtland@terraep.com

### Well Location, or Facility Information (if applicable):

API Number: 05- -00

Facility or Location ID: 436610

Name: Starkey Cuttings Trench

Number: Facility

QtrQtr: NENE Sec: 32

Twp: 6S

Range: 96W

Meridian: 6

County: GARFIELD

### ALLEGED VIOLATION

Rule: 303.b.

Rule Description: Form 2A, Oil and Gas Location Assessment

Initial Discovery Date: 11/04/2020

Was this violation self-reported by the operator? No

Date of Violation: 11/04/2020

Approximate Time of Violation:

Was this a discrete violation of obvious duration? Unknown

Description of Alleged Violation:

Pursuant to Rule 303.b.(1)A., a completed and approved Form 2A, Oil and Gas Location Assessment is required for TEP Rocky Mountain, LLC ("Operator"), for any new Oil and Gas Location - including a Centralized Waste Management Facility.

Operator submitted a Form 2A, Oil and Gas Location Assessment on March 20, 2020 (document no. 401587706).

COGCC staff conducted an environment field inspection on November 4, 2020 (document no. 699700220), for the proposed Starkey Gulch Centralized Waste Management Facility, and observed active construction and construction equipment at the location.

Operator began construction of a new Oil and Gas Location prior to the approval of the Form 2A, violating Rule 303.b.(1)A.

Abatement or Corrective Action Required to be Performed by Operator:

Corrective Action Due Date: 10/13/2021

**Proper and timely abatement does not preclude the assessment of penalties and an Order Finding Violation.**

Operator's Form 2A was approved on January 13, 2021.

Rule: 908

Centralized E&P Waste Management Facilities

Rule Description:

Initial Discovery Date: 11/04/2020

Was this violation self-reported by the operator? No

Date of Violation: 11/04/2020

Approximate Time of Violation:

Was this a discrete violation of obvious duration? Unknown

Description of Alleged Violation:

Pursuant to Rule 908.b., before TEP Rocky Mount, LLC ("Operator") shall commence construction of a centralized E&P waste management facility, Operator shall file with the Director an application on Form 28 and pay a filing and service fee established by the Commission, and obtain the Director's approval.

Operator submitted a Form 28, Centralized E&P Waste Management Facility Permit on March 31, 2020 (document no. 2573070).

COGCC staff conducted an environment field inspection on November 4, 2020 (document no. 699700220), for the proposed Starkey Gulch Centralized Waste Management Facility, and observed active construction and construction equipment at the location.

As of October 11, 2021, Operator's Form 28 has not been approved and COGCC staff are waiting for Operator to provide documentation before the Form 28 can be approved.

Operator commenced construction of a centralized E&P waste management facility without prior approval from the Director, violating Rule 908.b.

Abatement or Corrective Action Required to be Performed by Operator:

Corrective Action Due Date: 11/12/2021

**Proper and timely abatement does not preclude the assessment of penalties and an Order Finding Violation.**

Operator shall immediately cease construction and provide any outstanding documentation necessary for the approval of the Form 28.

**PENALTY**


Penalties for violations alleged in this NOAV will be calculated pursuant to Rule 525, with daily penalties accruing pursuant to Section 34-60-121(1), C.R.S.

**ANSWER**

Pursuant to Rule 523.c.(2), the operator must file an Answer to this NOAV within 28 days of its receipt, or a default judgment may be entered. Answers are filed by email to [dnr\\_cogccenforcement@state.co.us](mailto:dnr_cogccenforcement@state.co.us).

**NOAV ISSUED**

NOAV Issue Date: 10/13/2021

COGCC Representative Signature: 

COGCC Representative: Trent Lindley

Title: NOAV Specialist

Email: [trent.lindley@state.co.us](mailto:trent.lindley@state.co.us)

Phone Num: (303) 894-2100 x5143

**ATTACHMENT LIST**

View Attachments in Imaged Documents on COGCC website (<http://ogccweblink.state.co.us/>) - Search by Document Number.

<u>Document Number</u>	<u>Description</u>
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Total Attach: 0 Files