

From: [Mike Gardner](#)
To: [Trujillo - DNR, Aaron](#); [COGCC Inspection Reports](#)
Cc: [John Heil - DNR](#); [Alex Fischer - DNR](#); [Denise Arthur - DNR](#); [Eric DeKam](#); [Chris Varner](#); [Shawn Brennan](#)
Subject: RE: Notice of Corrective Action: Watson Ranch B Pad, #440705 - Re: COGCC Inspection Report #696204612
Date: Saturday, February 4, 2023 11:46:00 AM

Hi Aaron,

After your conversation with the TEP representative on location yesterday (February 3, 2023), additional TEP production personnel went out to this location yesterday afternoon to further investigate the leak that you noted in your email below.

Production personnel found that the tank was in fact empty and all valves going to / from the tank were closed. The bubbling that you observed during your site inspection is caused from vapors (not liquids) within the tank that are leaking out the bottom of the tank and the pedestal. As the sun warms the tank during the daytime, the atmosphere (air / vapors) within the tank is expanded creating pressure which was being released through a hole in the bottom of the tank. The air is escaping the along the interface between the tank bottom and the pedestal and is bubbling up through clean storm water (snow melt) that has accumulated along the edge of the tank (inside containment) over the course of the winter. Production personnel and a contractor went out to the location again this morning (February 4, 2023) and used hot water to clean out / remove ice from around the area that was bubbling, and to ensure that no fluids (i.e., contamination) have leaked from the tank.

In summary, our investigation has confirmed that no fluids were being stored in the tank at the time the "leak" was observed, all valving leading to/from the tank were closed, and no produced water or condensate were released into the containment. The tank in question has been out of service but obviously has a hole in the bottom as evidenced by the escaping air. The tank is scheduled to be removed this coming Monday, February 6, 2023. Heaters and/or hot water will be needed to thaw out / remove ice from the area around the rest of the tank so that the tank can be removed. In addition, TEP will remove two other tanks that are also out of service at this location.

I will submit this same information in a FIRR, but wanted to let you know that TEP investigated the situation immediately which complies with your requirement to respond and perform any corrective actions within 48 hours. As noted above, there was no release of liquids from this tank; therefore, there is nothing to cleanup. However, all out-of service tanks will be removed from this location beginning early next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks.

Mike Gardner
Cell: (970) 623-4875
Office: (970) 263-2760

mgardner@terraep.com

From: Trujillo - DNR, Aaron <aaron.trujillo@state.co.us>

Sent: Friday, February 3, 2023 2:22 PM

To: COGCC Inspection Reports <COGCCInspectionReports@terraep.com>; Mike Gardner <MGardner@terraep.com>

Cc: John Heil - DNR <john.heil@state.co.us>; Alex Fischer - DNR <alex.fischer@state.co.us>; Denise Arthur - DNR <denise.arthur@state.co.us>

Subject: Notice of Corrective Action: Watson Ranch B Pad, #440705

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Good Afternoon,

This email is to provide notice of an inspection that will be submitted shortly, with a 48 hour corrective action time frame.

During an inspection today at the Watson Ranch B Pad (Location #440705), a leak was observed at the base of a Produced Water tank; COGCC Staff contacted TEP via the emergency number, and a TEP representative was on the Location soon after.

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- Any Stormwater (Snow, snowmelt, ice, etc...) in contact with E&P Waste due to the potential spill
- is required to be removed within 48 hours.
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Please refer to the inspection report (#696204612) for additional information once submitted.

Thank you,

Aaron Trujillo

NW Reclamation Specialist


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Upcoming Out of Office Dates:

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