

STATE OF  
COLORADO

Allison - DNR, Rick &lt;rick.allison@state.co.us&gt;

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**Fwd: Supplemental Spill/Release Report #400986692 (Rothe 13-29U)**

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**Zack Liesenfeld** <Zack.Liesenfeld@pdce.com>  
To: "Allison - DNR, Rick" <rick.allison@state.co.us>

Wed, Feb 17, 2016 at 7:36 AM

Rick,

Per our conversation yesterday, please find comments to your email.

1. PDC has identified a water well to be 43 feet from the release. This water well appears to be Division of Water Resources permit #15931. According to the DWR records this water well is located on the edge of the section line, approximately 800 feet from the release. On future spills, please further evaluate the locations of water wells that appear to be within 1/8 mile of a release and provide supporting comments in the "Additional Spill Details" box to support the data listed under the distance to nearest receptor.
  - a. *PDC acknowledges the need to evaluate water wells that appear to be within a 1/8 mile radius of reportable release locations and provide supporting comments on spill details and corrective actions taken.*
2. On the Corrective Actions Report, the Root Cause is described as a failure of a casing valve on the wellhead, but does not give an explanation as to why the valve failed. Explaining why the valve failed will get to the root cause. Please provide a more detailed root cause and corrective action for this release.
  - a. *Valve failure resulted from water freezing within the center of the closed ball valve. The freezing liquid expanded outward, rupturing the O-rings which form seals around the ball valve, allowing liquid to escape. To prevent similar failures, ball valves only will be shut in once they are free of liquids.*

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,

Zack

**Zack Liesenfeld**

Evans, Colorado

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NASDAQ: PDCE

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**From:** Allison - DNR, Rick [mailto:[rick.allison@state.co.us](mailto:rick.allison@state.co.us)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2016 9:49 AM  
**To:** Zack Liesenfeld  
**Subject:** Fwd: Supplemental Spill/Release Report #400986692 (Rothe 13-29U)

Zack,

COGCC is reviewing the Form 19 Supplemental Report and Request for Closure for the Rothe 13-29U location. Please respond to the following comments:

1. PDC has identified a water well to be 43 feet from the release. This water well appears to be Division of Water Resources permit #15931. According to the DWR records this water well is located on the edge of the section line, approximately 800 feet from the release. On future spills, please further evaluate the locations of water wells that appear to be within 1/8 mile of a release and provide supporting comments in the "Additional Spill Details" box to support the data listed under the distance to nearest receptor.
2. On the Corrective Actions Report, the Root Cause is described as a failure of a casing valve on the wellhead, but does not give an explanation as to why the valve failed. Explaining why the valve failed will get to the root cause. Please provide a more detailed root cause and corrective action for this release.

You can reply to this email with the your response and I will approve the form at that time.

Rick

Rick Allison, P.G.

Environmental Protection Specialist, Northeast Colorado



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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **OGCC Notification** <[dnr\\_eforms.helpdesk@state.co.us](mailto:dnr_eforms.helpdesk@state.co.us)>

Date: Thu, Feb 11, 2016 at 7:07 AM

Subject: Supplemental Spill/Release Report #400986692

To: [rick.allison@state.co.us](mailto:rick.allison@state.co.us)



**Colorado**  
**Oil & Gas Conservation**  
**Commission**  
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### Supplemental Spill/Release Report

Operator Num: 69175

Operator Name: PDC ENERGY INC

Contact Name: Liesenfeld, Zack

Phone Num: (970) 506-9273

Email: [zack.liesenfeld@pdce.com](mailto:zack.liesenfeld@pdce.com)

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COGCC has been notified of Supplemental Spill/Release Report