



Fwd: Caerus Historic Project Inquiry - COGCC Document # 1941478 596-31C aerated water spill

Arauza - DNR, Steven <steven.arauza@state.co.us>

Fri, Dec 17, 2021 at 9:20 AM

To: Alex Fischer - DNR <alex.fischer@state.co.us>, Jim Hughes - DNR <jimo.hughes@state.co.us>

Caerus Spill #1941478

Steven J. Arauzo, P.G.
Environmental Protection Specialist



COLORADO

**Oil & Gas Conservation
Commission**

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He/Him

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

From: **Blair Rollins** <brollins@caerusoilandgas.com>

Date: Fri, Mar 26, 2021 at 7:43 AM

Subject: Caerus Historic Project Inquiry - COGCC Document # 1941478 596-31C aerated water spill

To: Arauzo - DNR, Steven <steven.arauza@state.co.us>

Cc: Brett Middleton <bmiddleton@caerusoilandgas.com>

Caerus Historic Project Inquiry – COGCC Document

Steven,

I have prepared this email to provide an update and request guidance concerning a historic spill project that needs to be addressed for closure. The project is associated with the 596-31C well pad (COGCC Location ID 335999) and the attached Form 19 Document # 1941478.

On 12/19/08 a 48 barrel aerated water spill occurred while Marathon Oil Company was drilling the surface interval of the 596-31C-28 well located in Garfield County, CO. The spill occurred when the 596-31C-28 wellbore communicated with an existing wellbore, the 596-31C-17 which was 25' away (see attached Site Map). Aerated water traveled between wellbores and was released via the annular space of the 596-31C-17 at surface. As the aerated water was used during the drilling of surface interval, it did not contact hydrocarbon bearing zones and contained no additives. Therefore, the aerated water would have left no impacts to soil or groundwater.

The COGCC has conducted 11 field inspections of the location between 2017 and 2020:

2 – 696201778
3 – 696201535
4 – 696201537
5 – 698100094
6 – 698100070
7 – 698100051
8 – 689703318
9 – 689703193
10 – 689701378
11 – 689700253

None of these inspections reference stained soil or visible impacts on the surface around either the 596-31C-28 or 596-31C-17 wells. All inspections can be found on the COGCC Database using COGCC Location ID 335999.

Based on the initial response and containment of the aerated water and the series of documented COGCC inspections following the spill, this spill should be closed. Any additional investigation of the release does not seem necessary at this time based on the fact that sampling of the area will be conducted during the required COGCC Rule 911.a.(4) site investigation at the time of facility decommissioning and final reclamation.

Please let me know if you agree with Caerus' assessment and approach to administrative closure of the spill from 2008.

Thank you,

Blair Rollins

Environmental Specialist

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596-31C-28 Form 19 PW spill (002).pdf

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