

Remarks:

Responded to brine/wastewater spill at the Cross Creek wells #14 (125-23165) and #15 (125-23182). The wells pipeline carries brine/wastewater 3.5 miles to the Lowery impoundment. The pipeline is a 6'' HDPE line and carries the brine/wastewater (from manifolded wells 14&15) at 70 psi. Taken from the evidence and clues at the scene a coupler for the 6'' line became loose and discharged brine/wastewater along with sediments into the creek below. There was an obvious hole from the erosion right underneath the coupler. During the inspection the coupler upstream was also observed to be leaking. The entire creek was walked down to the mouth to Cross Creek Lake. The creek was impacted by sediments all the way down to the lake and there was also evidence of a fish kill as invertebrates and fish were observed lying dead in the creek. The incident was reported by Mark Kiel on 5/26/09 at 5:15pm. The time from when the discharge occurred and when it was reported is unknown. The leak was discovered at 1:30pm by Range employees. An estimated 70 barrels of brine/wastewater (4200 gallons) was lost. During the inspection the pump was shut off and the pipe was drained. The pipe is going to be cleaned and pressure tested before being put back on line. Range is also considering going away from the couplers and welding the pipes together making it one solid piece. The ground that was impacted around the spill was scraped up and placed into a lined 30-yard box (3 boxes on site). The area was being seeded and mulched before we left the site.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
OIL AND GAS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Notice of Violation(s)

Law / Reg.	Section	Description of Violation
CSL	301	Operator discharged brine/wastewater into the waters of the Commonwealth.
CSL	307	Operator discharged brine/wastewater into the waters of the Commonwealth.
CSL	402	Operator managed brine/wastewater in a manner that created a danger for pollution.
PA O&G	78.54	Operator improperly disposed of fluids (brine.wastewater).
PA O&G	78.57a	Operator failed to control, store brine/wastewater properly.
PA O&G	78.60a	Operator allowed a discharge of brine/wastewater to the waters of the Commonwealth.
PA O&G	78.66	Operator failed to report within 2 hours of a release to the ground.
PA	91.33a	Operator failed to immediately report release to the waters of the Commonwealth.


Instructions / Response

You are requested to respond as indicated below by . If applicable, please include the description of activities you will pursue to achieve compliance with the statutes or regulations cited above. Address your reply to the DEP representative named below.

- Written response requested. Include explanation of cause of violation(s).
 Explain what you ... have done, or will do ... to correct the situation and achieve compliance.
 Include the schedule or anticipated time frame for compliance activities you intend to carry out.

Comments:

The Department did receive an incident report explaining the incident and response that was taken. A follow-up inspection will be conducted.

Permit Reg. No.	Date	DEP Rep.	Cert. Mail #	Date
37-125-23165-00	5/27/09	Bryon Miller 	70060810000068642466	5/27/09
37-125-23182-00				