

On July 3, 2015 COGCC Environmental Staff (Alex Fischer) conducted an environmental field inspection of the Texas Tea of Colorado LLC., (Texas Tea) Pace #2, API 05-123-08720 Facility. This was a result of an inquiry from Anadarko Petroleum regarding an alleged flow line leak. Mark Markley and Charles Chase from Anadarko were on location at 07:45 and Don Morgan, contract pumper for Texas Tea on location at 08:55. Weather was sunny and temperature was about 70 degree Fahrenheit at time of Inspection. The well was SI at this time. Anadarko provided access to their compressor facility where the alleged flow line leak occurred. A meter house was removed and temporally relocated where exposed flow lines were observed in an open excavation. The following is a summary:

- Three (3) 3-inch steel flow lines that Anadarko identified as Encana's were exposed approximately 5-feet below ground surface (bgs). Anadarko stated that these lines has sound integrity. Unsure if these lines were active or SI at time of the Inspection.
- One (1) 3-inch steel discharge line identified as Anadarko's was exposed approximately 5-feet below ground surface (bgs). This line was SI at the time of the Inspection.
- One (1) 3-inch fiberglass flow line and one (1) one-inch poly line identified as Texas teas were exposed approximately 5-feet below ground surface (bgs). The fiberglass line was located beneath the footprint of the meter house and communication tower. These lines were SI at time of the Inspection.
- The area beneath the meter house and communications tower indicated visual discoloration of the soil from the fiberglass flow line upward to the ground surface with what appeared to be more concentrated discoloration from the flow to about 2 feet above the line.
- Pace # 2 well head was SI. Oily material was built up around the stuffing box, around the wellhead and valves, with fresh soil on ground surface, pipes and valves.
- Valves were in the OFF position, but it appeared that the casing valve may have turned recently.
- Polish rod has some slight rust and dirt accumulation.
- Birds nests were noted on the pump jack.
- A 5-gallon pail apparently empty was near the pump jack.
- At about 8:56 the Texas Tea line was energized by Mr. Morgan and within approximately 1-minute, gas and fluids were emitting from the fiberglass line. Approximate pressure was 20 PSI. The line was then SI.
- When Asked by Alex how long had the well been SI, Mr. Morgan stated about 3-months.
- Mr. Morgan stated that repairs were made at tank battery where they found a plastic pipe cap to be the cause of a release at the tanks. This was repaired and replaced and at that time, he had energized the line to test for tightness (approximately 1-week ago, or 2-weeks from Monday July 6, 2015). Anadarko indicated that this was the time that Anadarko personnel noted gas vapors near their meter shed and then subsequently exposed all the lines with a hydrovac.
- Mr. Morgan indicated that modifications (replacement of a valve) were made to the tank battery about 2-years ago.

- Alex told Mr. Morgan that Texas Tea was to submit a Form 19 Spill/Release Report, and to provide the COGCC notification prior to day lighting/excavating soil above the line leak to that the COGCC maybe present at that time. John Axelson's contact information was provided.
- Anadarko found a pin hole leak in their flow line located approximately 50-feet east of the Texas Tea tank battery. Repairs were made and the excavation was backfilled. Mr. Chase provided Spill Report Document Number 400861293 and indicated that they will be conducting a subsurface investigation to determine the extent of impact. He stated the groundwater is about 5.5 feet bgs and that groundwater was impacted.

Texas Tea tank battery:

- Appears that soil has been removed as indicated by lower exposed portions of the tanks. Tanks exhibit signs of peeling paint and rust near the lower portion of tanks.
- Manway panels have been recently painted.
- 300-barrel, Tank Number 54023 – valves, fittings, bull plug leaking as evident of soil staining beneath valve. This valve was in off position and locked out.
- 300-barrel, Tank Number 54021 – This valve was off position but not locked out.
- Trash (oily rag) located on the east side of Tank Number 54023.

Former separator shed:

- Concrete pad, pipe, concrete, and wood debris.

Horizontal separator:

- Oil saturated soil beneath 1/2-inch tube coming out of separator.
- Recent work done as evidence by recent plumbing of fittings (new tape/pipe dope visible).
- Oil stained soil around separator and on north side of berm.
- An approximate 2-cubic yards of oily soil was noted in the weeds north of the separator.
- Oil stains on ground surface (access road) near the separator.

**EPS Recommendations**

With the apparent shallow groundwater (5-6 feet bgs) subsurface site investigation(s) and assessments should be conducted to verify that groundwater has not been impacted in the vicinity of the tank battery, horizontal separator, and compromised line location.

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Footprint of where meter shed was located. Stained soil.



Encana flow lines.



Texas Tea flowlines immediately to the right of wood cribbing.



Sign at well head.





Fresh dirt around well head.



Line valve.





Casing valve.



Separator and fittings.



Oily soil beneath line.





Compromised line leaking fluids and gas.





Compromised line leaking fluids and gas.



Compromised line leaking fluids and gas.



Tank battery.



Southern tank Number 54023.



Northern tank Number 54021



Leaking fittings. Tank Number 54023.





Concrete valut.



Separator plumbing.



Former compressor pad.



Former compressor pad. Disturbed area in background is location of Anadarko line leak, Fm 19 4001861293.



App. 2 yds of oily soil north of separator.



App. 2 yds of oily soil north of separator.





App 2 yds of oil soil. Oil stained ground beneath date and time stamp.