

**TITLE 19        NATURAL RESOURCES AND WILDLIFE**  
**CHAPTER 15    OIL AND GAS**  
**PART 29        RELEASE NOTIFICATION**

**19.15.29.1        ISSUING AGENCY:** Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Oil Conservation Division.  
[19.15.29.1 NMAC - N, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.2        SCOPE:** 19.15.29 NMAC applies to persons engaged in oil and gas development and production within New Mexico.  
[19.15.29.2 NMAC - N, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.3        STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** 19.15.29 NMAC is adopted pursuant to the Oil and Gas Act, NMSA 1978, Section 70-2-6, Section 70-2-11 and Section 70-2-12.  
[19.15.29.3 NMAC - N, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.4        DURATION:** Permanent.  
[19.15.29.4 NMAC - N, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.5        EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 1, 2008, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.  
[19.15.29.5 NMAC - N, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.6        OBJECTIVE:** To require persons who operate or control the release or the location of the release to report the unauthorized release of oil, gases, produced water, condensate or oil field waste including regulated NORM, or other oil field related chemicals, contaminants or mixtures of those chemicals or contaminants that occur during drilling, producing, storing, disposing, injecting, transporting, servicing or processing and to establish reporting procedures.  
[19.15.29.6 NMAC - N, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.7        DEFINITIONS:**

- A.** "Major release" means:
- (1) an unauthorized release of a volume, excluding gases, in excess of 25 barrels;
  - (2) an unauthorized release of a volume that:
    - (a) results in a fire;
    - (b) will reach a watercourse;
    - (c) may with reasonable probability endanger public health; or
    - (d) results in substantial damage to property or the environment;
  - (3) an unauthorized release of gases in excess of 500 MCF; or
  - (4) a release of a volume that may with reasonable probability be detrimental to water or exceed the standards in Subsections A and B or C of 19.15.30.9 NMAC.
- B.** "Minor release" means an unauthorized release of a volume, greater than five barrels but not more than 25 barrels; or greater than 50 MCF but less than 500 MCF of gases.  
[19.15.29.7 NMAC - Rp, 19.15.3.116 NMAC, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.8        RELEASE NOTIFICATION:**

- A.** The person operating or controlling either the release or the location of the release shall notify the division of unauthorized release occurring during the drilling, producing, storing, disposing, injecting, transporting, servicing or processing of oil, gases, produced water, condensate or oil field waste including regulated NORM, or other oil field related chemicals, contaminants or mixture of the chemicals or contaminants, in accordance with the requirements of 19.15.29 NMAC.
- B.** The person operating or controlling either the release or the location of the release shall notify the division in accordance with 19.15.29 NMAC with respect to a release from a facility of oil or other water contaminant, in such quantity as may with reasonable probability be detrimental to water or exceed the standards in Subsections A and B or C of 19.15.30.9 NMAC.  
[19.15.29.8 NMAC - Rp, 19.15.3.116 NMAC, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.9 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** The person operating or controlling either the release or the location of the release shall provide notification of releases in 19.15.29.8 NMAC as follows.

**A.** The person shall report a major release by giving both immediate verbal notice and timely written notice pursuant to Subsections A and B of 19.15.29.10 NMAC.

**B.** The person shall report a minor release by giving timely written notice pursuant to Subsection B of 19.15.29.10 NMAC.

[19.15.29.9 NMAC - Rp, 19.15.3.116 NMAC, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.10 CONTENTS OF NOTIFICATION:**

**A.** The person operating or controlling either the release or the location of the release shall provide immediate verbal notification within 24 hours of discovery to the division district office for the area within which the release takes place. In addition, the person shall provide immediate verbal notification of a release of a volume that may with reasonable probability be detrimental to water or exceed the standards in Subsections A and B or C of 19.15.30.9 NMAC to the division's environmental bureau chief. The notification shall provide the information required on form C-141.

**B.** The person operating or controlling either the release or the location of the release shall provide timely written notification within 15 days to the division district office for the area within which the release occurs by completing and filing form C-141. In addition, the person shall provide timely written notification of a release of a volume that may with reasonable probability be detrimental to water or exceed the standards in Subsections A and B or C of 19.15.30.9 NMAC to the division's environmental bureau chief within 15 days after the release is discovered. The written notification shall verify the prior verbal notification and provide appropriate additions or corrections to the information contained in the prior verbal notification.

[19.15.29.10 NMAC - Rp, 19.15.3.116 NMAC, 12/1/08]

**19.15.29.11 CORRECTIVE ACTION:** The responsible person shall complete division-approved corrective action for releases that endanger public health or the environment. The responsible person shall address releases in accordance with a remediation plan submitted to and approved by the division or with an abatement plan submitted in accordance with 19.15.30 NMAC.

[19.15.29.11 NMAC - Rp, 19.15.3.116 NMAC, 12/1/08]

#### **HISTORY of 19.15.29 NMAC:**

**History of Repealed Material:** 19.15.3 NMAC, Drilling (filed 10/29/2001) repealed 12/1/08.

#### **NMAC History:**

That applicable portion of 19.15.3 NMAC, Drilling (Section 116) (filed 10/29/2001) was replaced by 19.15.29 NMAC, Release Notification, effective 12/1/08.