

This is an amendment to 19.15.29 NMAC, Sections 6, 8 and 15, effective August 24, 2021.

**19.15.29.6 OBJECTIVE:** To prohibit releases and 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 procedures for reporting, site assessment, remediation, closure, variance and enforcement [~~procedures~~].

[19.15.29.6 NMAC - Rp, 19.15.29.6 NMAC, 8/14/2018; A, 8/24/2021]

**19.15.29.8 RELEASES:**

**A. Prohibition.** Except as provided in 19.15.27 NMAC or 19.15.28 NMAC, major releases and minor releases are prohibited.

~~[A.]~~ **B. Requirements.** For all releases regardless of volume, the responsible party shall comply with 19.15.29.8 NMAC and shall remediate the release. For major and minor releases, the responsible party shall also comply with 19.15.29.9, 19.15.29.10, 19.15.29.11, 19.15.29.12 and 19.15.29.13 NMAC.

~~[B.]~~ **C. Initial response.** The responsible party must take the following immediate actions unless the actions could create a safety hazard that would result in injury.

(1) **Source elimination and site security.** The responsible party must take appropriate measures to stop the source of the release and limit access to the site as necessary to protect human health and the environment.

(2) **Containment.** Once the site is secure, the responsible party must contain the materials released by construction of berms or dikes, the use of absorbent pads or other containment actions to limit the area affected by the release and prevent potential fresh water contaminants from migrating to watercourses or areas that could pose a threat to public health and environment. The responsible party must monitor the containment to ensure that it is effectively containing the material and not being degraded by weather or onsite activity.

(3) **Site stabilization.** After containment, the responsible party must recover any free liquids and recoverable materials that can be physically removed from the surface within the containment area. The responsible party must deliver material removed from the site to a division-approved facility.

(4) **Remediation.** The responsible party may commence remediation immediately.  
[19.15.29.8 NMAC - Rp, 19.15.29.8 NMAC, 8/14/2018; A, 8/24/2021]

**19.15.29.15 ENFORCEMENT:**

**A.** The responsible party must comply with all the requirements of 19.15.29 NMAC. The division may take enforcement action pursuant to 19.15.5.10 NMAC against any responsible party who does not comply with 19.15.29 NMAC [~~pursuant to 19.15.5.10 NMAC~~].

**B.** A responsible party may enter [~~an agreed compliance~~] a stipulated final order with the division for any violation of 19.15.29 NMAC, except for 19.15.29.9 NMAC. An agreed compliance order may be entered prior to or after the filing of an application by the division or any other party for an administrative compliance proceeding. Any administrative compliance order will have the same force and effect as a compliance order issued after an adjudicatory hearing.

**C.** The director or the director's designee may deny any application or permit, including but not limited to, a permit to drill, deepen or plug back a well if the responsible party is not in compliance with a court order [~~, agreed compliance order or administrative compliance~~] or final order arising from 19.15.29 NMAC.

~~[D. — If the division or other party files an administrative enforcement application, the provisions of 19.15.4 NMAC apply to the enforcement proceeding, unless altered or amended by 19.15.5.10 NMAC or 19.15.29 NMAC.]~~

[19.15.29.15 NMAC - N, 8/14/2018; A, 8/24/2021]