

Liaison Update #10

OES Report # 21-7337 and 22-0017, NRC Report #1325103, 1325728 and 1325851

Initial Report Date: 12/22/21

Name of Incident: Pipeline 0919 Incident

Location: Huntington Beach, Orange County

***Note: Please reference the ICS 209-CG distributed by the incident for oil spill status, updated response resources, and other response information.**

Unified Command

A Unified Command consisting of US Coast Guard (USCG), California Department of Fish and Wildlife Office of Spill Prevention and Response (CDFW-OSPR), the County of Orange, and DCOR, LLC continues to respond to a pipeline breach that created sheens in coastal waters approximately one-mile offshore of Huntington Beach.

A DCOR, LLC pipeline is located in approximately 40 feet of water below the area where the sheens were observed and has been confirmed as the source. The pipeline from Platform Eva is within California state waters and is currently shut-in with no pressure on the line. Additional state agencies are working within the Unified Command to isolate and mitigate potential leaks in the line and develop a repair plan. These agencies include the CA State Lands Commission and the CA Office of the State Fire Marshal (Cal Fire).

Current Operations

On the afternoon of Tuesday, January 4, divers excavated the pipeline in the area of the observed breach and placed a temporary clamp, which stopped oil from weeping out of the Pritec (anti-corrosion) coating on the pipeline. Divers continued work over the weekend, and into this week, to verify the location of the leak in the pipeline through use of ultrasonic testing equipment.

On the afternoon of Monday, January 10, divers were able to locate a 1/8-inch diameter leak-point in the pipeline, believed to be the source. A clamp was placed over the pipeline where the leak-point was found. Divers continue to remove sections of Pritec coating as part of operations to further assess the pipeline's integrity and Repair Assessment Teams are working to develop more permanent repair plans.

Prepositioned response assets, including 3 vessels with the capability of booming and skimming oil, one helicopter, and one drone for aerial surveillance, continue to monitor for evidence of oil/sheen at the location of the diver work site. Vessels are on scene 24/7 and aerial surveillance is being conducted during daytime operations.

There are no beach or marina closures, and public volunteers are not needed as there have been no confirmed shoreline impacts. Protective strategies remain in place at Bolsa Chica Wetlands

and Newport Slough. Due to high outflows from recent rains, the protective strategies at Talbert Marsh and the Santa Ana River have been temporarily removed but are staged and ready to be deployed when the outflow recedes or are otherwise needed.

Shoreline reconnaissance surveys continue to be conducted between Bolsa Chica State Beach and the Santa Ana River and have confirmed no shoreline impacts. Beach cleanup crews remain on-standby to respond to any reports of oil on the shoreline.

No fisheries closures have been recommended by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.

Wildlife

The Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN) is on standby and will respond to any reports of oiled wildlife.

Media

Media inquiries can be directed to CDFW-OSPR Public Information Officer Eric Laughlin at Eric.Laughlin@wildlife.ca.gov. More information will be shared when it becomes available.