PLAINS ALL AMERICAN PIPELINE FACT SHEET



May 29, 2015

The Refugio Oil Spill that occurred on May 19, 2015 initiated from a pipeline owned by Plains All American Pipeline. The 10-mile, 24" buried pipeline, known as Line 901, transports heavy crude from Exxon Mobil's offshore platforms to oil refineries throughout southern California. The pipeline originates in the Las Flores Canyon Oil & Gas Processing Facility and extends west to the Gaviota Pump Station, where it connects to the main All American Pipeline system coursing northeast into San Luis Obispo and Kern Counties.

As one of the largest transporters of oil in North America, Plains All American Pipeline owns facilities throughout the United States and Canada. The company operates 6,437 miles of pipelines in the United States, with 480 miles of pipelines under operation in California. Eighty-six percent of these pipelines are dedicated to the transportation of crude oil.

Commensurate with its extensive operations, Plains All American Pipeline has a long record of safety violations and oil spills. According to the US EPA and Department of Justice, Plains All American Pipeline had 10 serious spills in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Kansas between June 2004 and September 2007, spilling 273,420 gallons of crude oil from its various pipelines. According to the US Department of Transportation, Plains All American Pipeline has logged a total 175 incidents since 2006, spilling over 520,000 gallons hazardous liquid, and causing over \$24 million in damages to property in the US alone. The company's record in Canada fares even worse, with pipelines owned by its subsidiary Plains Midstream Canada caused one of the largest inland oil spills ever in the boreal forests of Alberta. According to Santa Barbara County Planning and Development, the Refugio Oil Spill marks Plains All American Pipeline's fifth spill on record in the County since operations began in 1991.

Line 901 is the only pipeline of its kind in Santa Barbara County that is not required to have automatic shut-off valves. This exemption was granted after it was successfully argued in court in the late 1980s that the pipeline should be subject to federal oversight because the pipeline is part of an interstate network. Auto-shutoff valves are not required by federal regulators.

Below is a record of Plains All American Pipeline's major environmental spills and violations since the company began operations in Santa Barbara County in 1991.

May 2015, Bakersfield, California: The EPA cited Plains All-American Pipeline with violations at its Bakersfield crude by rail terminal, including a failure to obtain valid emissions permits, a failure to install best available control technologies, and a failure to provide emissions offsets as required by the local air district. The facility has been open for less than a year.

September 2014, Calgary, Canada: Canada's National Energy Board opened an official investigation against Plains Midstream, a subsidiary of Plains All-American Pipeline, for failing to address the factors that led major oil spills in remote areas of Alberta.

May 2014, Atwater Village, Los Angeles, California: Less than a quarter mile from the Los Angeles River, a valve malfunction sent 10,000 gallons of crude oil skywards 50 feet in the air, severely damaging surrounding businesses and sickening nearby workers.

June 2012, *Alberta, Canada*: Heavy rains caused a 46-year-old pipeline to leak and spill upwards of 100,000 gallons of crude oil into the Red Deer River.

April 2011, Little Buffalo, Canada: Inadequate leak detection let to the rupture of nearly 900,000 gallons of crude oil in a remote region of Alberta, Canada. The incident is one of the worst inland spills to date, and led to school closures and eventual charges against Plains Midstream Canada.

September 2007, *Vealmoor, Texas*: In a repeat of an earlier incident, external pipeline corrosion caused a spill of 3150 gallons of crude oil, discharging oil into Texas' Colorado River.

August 2007, Vealmoor, Texas: External pipeline corrosion caused a spill of 12,600 gallons of crude oil, discharging oil into Texas' Colorado River.

November 2005, *Houston, Texas*: External pipeline corrosion caused a spill of 630 gallons of crude oil, leading to discharges into Bull Creek Canal.

July 2005, *Osage County, Oklahoma*: Pipeline corrosion led to a spill of over 1500 gallons of crude oil into tributaries of Pond Creek.

April 2005, *Tensas Parish, Louisiana*: Pipeline corrosion led to the spill of 175 gallons of crude oil into Big Lake and adjacent wetlands.

March 2005, Santa Barbara County, California: An underground leak near the Sisquoc River spilled an estimated 1,500 gallons of crude oil.

March 2005, Waskom, Texas: Pipeline corrosion led to the discharge of 79 gallons of crude oil onto Caddo Lake.

January 2005, *Longview, Texas*: Faulty equipment led to the spill of 37,705 gallons of crude oil, sending discharges into the Sabine River.

December 2004, Iraan, Texas: A cracked joint well led to a spill of 141,750 gallons, sending discharges of crude oil into the Pecos River.

November 2004, Westbrook, Texas: Dents in pipeline coating led to the spill of over 1500 gallons of crude oil into the latan Creek.

June 2004, *Ellis, Kansas*: Faulty equipment cause over 5,800 gallons of crude oil to spill into East Spring Creek and adjacent wetlands.

Since 1991, Santa Barbara County, California: Dating from when operations began in 1991, there have been four identified spills along the Plains All American Pipeline System in Santa Barbara County.