



**DENR**  
SOUTH DAKOTA

DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT  
and NATURAL RESOURCES

JOE FOSS BUILDING  
523 EAST CAPITOL  
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182  
denr.sd.gov

September 8, 2020

Sarah Blaine  
POET Biorefining  
40509 247<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mitchell, SD 57301

Subject: Department of Environment and Natural Resources File Number 2020.132:  
pertaining to a sodium hydroxide release at 40509 247h Street, Mitchell, SD.

Dear Ms. Blaine:

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is contacting you regarding the event noted above. A copy of the initial spill report form is enclosed for your review. Based on the information provided, approximately 50 gallons of dilute sodium hydroxide was released. The procedures for the assessment and cleanup of spills such as this were developed to protect surface and groundwater resources. In this situation, DENR requires the following:

- Apply absorbents to spilled product and scrape up visibly contaminated gravel and absorbents;
- Properly dispose of contaminated materials at a regional permitted solid waste landfill;
- Backfill excavated area;
- By October 6, 2020, please provide this office a copy of landfill receipts and complete the attached Written Contamination Incident Follow Up Report form (this is a standard form so some questions will not apply to this situation, just skip those questions).

Jaclyn McGuire has been assigned as the project manager for this case. She will review the information provided and will contact you if further remedial action is necessary. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact her at 605.773.3296. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

Trish Kindt  
Ground Water Quality Program  
(605) 773-3296

cc Jeff Bathke, Davison County Emergency Manager

## South Dakota Spill Report Form

Dept. of Ag. Case No.

PRCF No.

 State Case No. **2020.0132**

Reported: (mm/dd/yy) <b>09/08/20</b>		Time: <b>8:00 AM</b>		Recorded By: <b>J. McGuire</b>	
<b>A. REPORTER</b>	Reported By: <b>Brad Maskovich</b>				
	Organization Name: <b>Office of Emergency Management</b>				
	Organization: <input type="checkbox"/> discharger <input type="checkbox"/> public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local <input type="checkbox"/> federal				
	Address: <b>221 South Central Avenue</b>				
	City: <b>Pierre</b>		County: <b>Hughes</b>		State: <b>SD</b>
Zip: <b>57501</b>			Phone: <b>605-773-3231</b>		
<b>B. DISCHARGER (Responsible Party)</b>	Name: <b>POET Biorefining C/o Sarah Blaine</b>				
	Address: <b>40509 247th Street</b>				
	City: <b>Mitchell</b>		County: <b>Davison</b>		State: <b>SD</b>
	Zip: <b>57301</b>			Phone: <b>605-656-1674</b>	
<b>C. INCIDENT LOCATION</b>	Street or Approx. Location: As Above in B: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
	Survey Description:				
	City:		Zip:		County:
State:					
<b>D. DATE</b>	Spill Date: (mm/dd/yy) <b>09/08/20</b>			Spill Time: <b>3:00 AM</b>	
<b>E. MATERIAL</b>	Material Type (Code/Name):		<input type="checkbox"/> hazardous substance <input type="checkbox"/> oil <input type="checkbox"/> material unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other		Quantity Spilled
	<b>Sodium Hydroxide 3-5%</b>		<b>50</b>		Spilled in Water <b>0</b>
					Units (Check 1) <input type="radio"/> lb. <input type="radio"/> bbl. <input checked="" type="radio"/> gal. <input type="radio"/> oth.
<b>F. SOURCE</b>	Source of Spill: <input checked="" type="radio"/> AST <input type="radio"/> UST <input type="radio"/> railway <input type="radio"/> transport <input type="radio"/> fixed facility <input type="radio"/> pipeline <input type="radio"/> highway <input type="radio"/> other				
	Description: <b>AST outside facility</b>				
	Regulated Tank: <input type="checkbox"/>				
<b>G. MED. MED.</b>	Medium Affected: <input type="checkbox"/> air <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> land <input type="checkbox"/> water <input type="checkbox"/> groundwater <input type="checkbox"/> within facilities only				
	Waterway Affected: <b>n/a</b>				
<b>H. CAUSE</b>	Reported Cause: <input type="radio"/> transportation accident <input type="radio"/> operational error <input type="radio"/> dumping <input checked="" type="radio"/> equipment failure <input type="radio"/> natural phenomenon <input type="radio"/> unknown <input type="radio"/> Other:				
	Description: <b>gasket failure</b>				
<b>I. DAM- AGES</b>	No. of injuries: <b>0</b>		No. of deaths: <b>0</b>		
<b>J. ACTIONS</b>	Response Action Taken: <b>Applying dirt to solidify spill, Scraping affected gravel area, taking to landfill.</b>				
<b>K. NOT- IFIED</b>	Responding Agency: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DENR <input type="checkbox"/> DOA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> discharger <input type="checkbox"/> federal <input type="checkbox"/> EPA <input type="checkbox"/> local				
	Agencies Notified:				
<b>L. COMMENTS</b>	Comments: <b>Recommended using pH test strips to ensure contaminated materials were neutralized.</b>				

Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
 Ground Water Quality Program  
 523 East Capitol Avenue  
 Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Business Hours M thru F 8:00 - 5:00 pm  
 Normal business hours - (605) 773-3296  
 After business hours - (605) 773-3231