



State of Utah

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Chevron Cited for Diesel Pipeline Spill**

Salt Lake City, Utah – As part of a Notice of Violation and Compliance Order (NOV/CO) issued today, the Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ) is asking Chevron Pipeline Company to provide a report on cleanup activities and its response plan for the pipeline rupture that leaked approximately 21,000 gallons of diesel near Willard Bay Reservoir on March 18, 2013.

The NOV/CO is not a penalty. Rather, it details findings of fact regarding the spill, violations based on these findings, and mandatory compliance provisions for cleanup and monitoring. Chevron has the opportunity to review the document, and submit a response or challenge the NOV within thirty days of receipt. Chevron will also have sixty days to submit a response to the Compliance Order. Once Chevron's response to the NOV has been received and reviewed, the state will begin a process to determine whether a penalty will be levied for the spill.

“We are working with the Attorney General's Office to ensure Chevron is held accountable for the spill and its impacts,” said DWQ Director Walt Baker. “This release has had a significant effect on a fragile ecosystem. The popular bird watching and recreational area has been closed because of this spill.”

So far 408 barrels of diesel have been recovered and an estimated 70 barrels remain in the surrounding soil and water. The March 18th spill into Willard Bay State Park marks the third time in the last three years Chevron has been issued a notice of violation for pipeline problems. “Significant progress has been made in removing the spilled diesel and remediating the areas impacted by the spill,” added John Whitehead, assistant director of DWQ who has been overseeing the spill cleanup.

Chevron gave an onsite tour Wednesday to state officials and the media. The Department of Environmental Quality has posted pictures from this tour on its web site, along with updated sampling results and background material about the spill. This information, along with the NOV/CO, can be found at: <http://www.deq.utah.gov/locations/willardbay/willardbay.htm>.

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