

Re: Bruce W. Marlin, Sr. dba Marlin Oil and Gas 2
SDWA-06-2021-1112

Enclosures

ec: Ms. Jann Hayman, Osage Nation DNR Director
jannhayman@osagenation-nsn.gov

Ms. Robin Phillips, BIA Osage Agency Superintendent
robin.phillips@bia.gov

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
Dallas, Texas 75270

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REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
EPA REGION VI

In the Matter of

Bruce W. Marlin, Sr.
dba Marlin Oil and Gas

Respondent.

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Docket No. SDWA-06-2021-1112

PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

The following findings are made, and Order issued, under the authority vested in the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by Section 1423(c) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2(c). The authority to issue this Order has been delegated by the Administrator to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 6 who further delegated such authority to the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division. The EPA has primary enforcement responsibility for underground injection within the meaning of Section 1422(c) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h-1(c), to ensure that owners or operators of Class II injection wells within Osage County, Oklahoma, comply with the requirements of the Act.

FINDINGS

1. Bruce W. Marlin, Sr. dba as Marlin Oil and Gas (Respondent) is an individual and, therefore, is a "person," within the meaning of Section 1401(12) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300f(12).
2. At all times relevant to the violations alleged herein, Respondent owned or operated an "injection well" which is a "Class II well" as those terms are defined at 40 C.F.R § 147.2902. The injection well is located in the SE Quarter of Section 02, Township 24 North, Range 04 East,

Osage County, Oklahoma, designated as Well No. 3-B and EPA Inventory Number OS5818000 (the injection well).

3. Respondent is subject to underground injection control (UIC) program requirements set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 147, Subpart GGG, which are authorized under Section 1421 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h.

4. Regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 147.2903(a) require that any underground injection is prohibited except as authorized by rule or authorized by a permit issued under the UIC program. The construction or operation of any well required to have a permit is prohibited until the permit has been issued. The term “permit” is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 147.2902.

5. Regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 147.2916 require the owner or operator of a new Class II injection well, or any other Class II well required to have a permit in the Osage Mineral Reserve, to comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. §§ 147.2903, 147.2907, and 147.2918 through 147.2928.

6. On September 23, 1997, EPA issued UIC permit number 06S1262P5818 (the permit) for the injection well.

7. On September 23, 1997, the permit became effective.

8. On March 24, 2009, EPA issued a permit modification with an effective date of March 24, 2009, to the Respondent, thereby transferring the permit to the Respondent.

9. Regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 147.2922(b) and conditions II.J.I and II.L.4 of the permit require the operator of an injection well to monitor injection rate and pressure monthly and to report monitoring results to EPA annually.

10. On October 29, 2020, EPA mailed Respondent a letter notifying Respondent that EPA had not received an annual report for the injection well for the period of July 2019 through June

2020. The letter informed Respondent of the potential violations of the Act and the UIC program and that EPA can pursue enforcement actions in response to these violations. The letter also provided the Respondent an opportunity to confer with the EPA in regards to this matter.

11. During a review of records for the permit conducted by representatives of EPA on July 6, 2021, it was observed that the Respondent has not submitted an annual report for the injection well for the period of July 2019 through June 2020.

12. Therefore, Respondent violated regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 147.2922(b) and conditions II.J.I and II.L.4 of the permit by failing to submit an annual operations report for the injection well for the period of July 2019 through June 2020.

SECTION 1423(c) PROPOSED COMPLIANCE ORDER

13. Based on the foregoing findings, and pursuant to the authority of Section 1423(c) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2(c), EPA Region 6 hereby proposes to order Respondent to submit the required annual operations report for the injection well for the period July 2019 through June 2020. The required report shall be submitted to the EPA at the address shown below within thirty (30) days after the effective date of a Final Administrative Order. Report forms are included in Attachment A, which is incorporated herein by reference.

14. Submit the required information to the EPA at eckhart.jeanne@epa.gov within thirty (30) days after the effective date of a Final Administrative Order.

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING

15. Respondent may request a hearing to contest the issuance of the Final Administrative Order, pursuant to Section 1423(c)(3)(A) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2(c)(3)(A). Such hearing shall not be subject to section 554 or 556 of Title 5, but shall provide a reasonable opportunity to be heard and to present evidence.

16. A request for a hearing must be made within thirty (30) days of the date of receipt of this Proposed Administrative Order. If you would like to request a hearing on this Proposed Administrative Order, submit the hearing request to the Regional Hearing Clerk (6ORC); U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6; 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500; Dallas, Texas 75270-2102.

17. Should a hearing be requested, members of the public who commented on the issuance of this Proposed Administrative Order during the public comment period would have a right to be heard and present evidence at a hearing under Section 1423(c)(3)(C) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2(c)(3)(C).

GENERAL PROVISIONS

18. Issuance of the Final Administrative Order does not constitute a waiver, suspension, or modification of the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Parts 144, 146, and 147, Subpart GGG, which remain in full force and effect.

19. Issuance of the Final Administrative Order is not an election by EPA to forego any civil or criminal action otherwise authorized under the Act.

20. Violation of the terms of the Final Administrative Order after its effective date or date of final judgment as described in Section 1423(c)(6) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2(c)(6), may subject Respondent to further enforcement action, including a civil action for enforcement of the Final Administrative Order under Section 1423(b) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2(b), and civil and criminal penalties for violations of the compliance terms of the Final Administrative Order under Section 1423(b)(1) and (2) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2(b)(1) and (2).

TAX IDENTIFICATION

21. For purposes of the identification requirement in Section 162(f)(2)(A)(ii) of the Internal

Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 162(f)(2)(A)(ii), and 26 C.F.R. § 1.162-21(b)(2), performance of Paragraph 13 is restitution, remediation, or required to come into compliance with the law.

SETTLEMENT

22. EPA encourages all parties against whom an administrative order is proposed to pursue the possibility of settlement through informal meetings with EPA. Regardless of whether a formal hearing is requested, Respondent may confer informally with EPA about the alleged violations. Respondent may wish to appear at any informal conference or formal hearing personally, by counsel or other representative, or both. To request an informal conference on the matters described in this Proposed Administrative Order, please contact Jeanne Eckhart, of my staff, at (214) 665-8174.

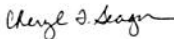
23. If this action does not proceed to a formal hearing, EPA shall issue a Final Administrative Order.

EFFECTIVE DATE

24. The Final Administrative Order becomes effective thirty (30) days after issuance unless an appeal is taken pursuant to Section 1423(c)(6) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h-2(c)(6).

July 23, 2021

Date



Digitally signed by CHERYL SEAGER
DN: cn=U.S. Government,
ou=Environmental Protection Agency,
cn=CHERYL SEAGER,
o=9 2342 19200300.100.1.1+68001003651793
Date: 2021.07.23 14:39:44 -0500

Cheryl T. Seager, Director
Enforcement and
Compliance Assurance Division

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Underground Injection Control Program
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75270-2102**

Annual Disposal Injection Well Monitoring Report

Operator:	Bruce W. Marlin, Sr. P.O. Box 149 Wynona, OK 74084 580-716-6025	Owner:	Bruce W. Marlin, Sr. P.O. Box 149 Wynona, OK 74084 580-716-6025
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State: OK County: Osage Inventory Number: OS5818000 Due Date: 07/31/2020
 Qtr Section: SE Section: 02 Township: 24 Range: 04 Surface Location: 330N - 330W
 Special Category:

Well Activity	Type of Permit	Lease Name	Well Number
Disposal	Individual Permit	BOWMAN	3-B

Month	Year	Injection Pressure for Fluid (PSIG)		Injection Pressure for Gas (PSIG)		Total Volume Injected		Tubing-Casing Annulus Pressure	
		Avg	Max	Avg	Max	BBL	MCF	Min	Max
JUL	2019		#	#	#	#	#	#	#
AUG	2019	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
SEP	2019	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
OCT	2019	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
NOV	2019	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
DEC	2019	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
JAN	2020	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
FEB	2020	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
MAR	2020	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
APR	2020	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
MAY	2020	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#
JUN	2020	#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#

CERTIFICATION

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations (Ref. 40 CFR 122.22)

Name and Official Title

Signature

Date Signed

U.S. EPA Small Business Resources Information Sheet

The United States Environmental Protection Agency provides an array of resources to help small businesses understand and comply with federal and state environmental laws. In addition to helping small businesses understand their environmental obligations and improve compliance, these resources will also help such businesses find cost-effective ways to comply through pollution prevention techniques and innovative technologies.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)

<https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-office-small-and-disadvantaged-business-utilization-osdbu>

EPA's OSDBU advocates and advances business, regulatory, and environmental compliance concerns of small and socio-economically disadvantaged businesses.

EPA's Asbestos Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO)

<https://www.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses/asbestos-small-business-ombudsman> or 1-800-368-5888

The EPA ASBO serves as a conduit for small businesses to access EPA and facilitates communications between the small business community and the Agency.

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

<https://nationalsbeap.org>

This program provides a "one-stop shop" for small businesses and assistance providers seeking information on a wide range of environmental topics and state-specific environmental compliance assistance resources.

EPA's Compliance Assistance Homepage

<https://www.epa.gov/compliance>

This page is a gateway to industry and statute-specific environmental resources, from extensive web-based information to hotlines and compliance assistance specialists.

Compliance Assistance Centers

<https://www.complianceassistance.net>

EPA-sponsored Compliance Assistance Centers provide the information you need, in a way that helps make sense of environmental regulations. Each Center addresses real world issues faced by a specific industry or government sector. They were developed in partnership with industry, universities and other federal and state agencies.

Agriculture

<https://www.epa.gov/agriculture>

Automotive Recycling

<http://www.ecarcenter.org>

Automotive Service and Repair

<https://ccar-greenlink.org/> or 1-888-GRN-LINK

Combustion—Boilers, Generators, Incinerators, Wood Heaters

<https://www.combustionportal.org/>

Construction

<http://www.cicacenter.org>

Education

<https://www.nacubo.org/>

Healthcare

<http://www.hercenter.org>

Local Government

<https://www.lgean.net/>

Oil/ Natural Gas Energy Extraction

<https://www.eciee.org/>

Paints and Coatings

<https://www.paintcenter.org/>

Ports

<https://www.portcompliance.org/>

Surface Finishing

<http://www.sterc.org/>

Transportation

<https://www.tercenter.org/>

U.S. Border Compliance and Import/Export Issues

<https://www.bordercenter.org/>

Veterinary Care

<https://www.vetca.org/>

EPA Hotlines and Clearinghouses

www.epa.gov/home/epa-hotlines

EPA sponsors many free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance regarding environmental requirements. Examples include:

Clean Air Technology Center (CATC) Info-line

www.epa.gov/catc or 1-919-541-0800

Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP, and Oil Information Center

1-800-424-9346

EPA Imported Vehicles and Engines Public Helpline

www.epa.gov/otaq/imports or 1-734-214-4100

National Pesticide Information Center

www.npic.orst.edu or 1-800-858-7378

National Response Center Hotline to report oil and hazardous substance spills - <http://nrc.uscg.mil> or 1-800-424-8802

Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (PPIC) -

www.epa.gov/p2/pollution-prevention-resources#ppic or 1-202-566-0799

Safe Drinking Water Hotline -

www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline or 1-800-426-4791

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Hotline

tsc hotline@epa.gov or 1-202-554-1404

Small Entity Compliance Guides

<https://www.epa.gov/reg-flex/small-entity-compliance-guides>

EPA publishes a Small Entity Compliance Guide (SECG) for every rule for which the Agency has prepared a final regulatory flexibility analysis, in accordance with Section 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA).

Regional Small Business Liaisons

www.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses/epa-regional-office-small-business-liaisons

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Small Business Liaison (RSBL) is the primary regional contact and often the expert on small business assistance, advocacy, and outreach. The RSBL is the regional voice for the EPA Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO).

State Resource Locators

www.envcap.org/statetools

The Locators provide state-specific information on regulations and resources covering the major environmental laws.

State Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs)

<https://nationalsbeap.org/states/list>

State SBEAPs help small businesses and assistance providers understand environmental requirements and sustainable business practices through workshops, trainings and site visits.

EPA's Tribal Portal

<https://www.epa.gov/tribal>

The Portal helps users locate tribal-related information within EPA and other federal agencies.

EPA Compliance Incentives

EPA provides incentives for environmental compliance. By participating in compliance assistance programs or voluntarily disclosing and promptly correcting violations before an enforcement action has been initiated, businesses may be eligible for penalty waivers or reductions. EPA has several such policies that may apply to small businesses. More information is available at:

- **EPA's Small Business Compliance Policy**
- <https://www.epa.gov/compliance/small-business-compliance>
- **EPA's Audit Policy**
www.epa.gov/compliance/epas-audit-policy

Commenting on Federal Enforcement Actions and Compliance Activities

The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) established a Small Business Administration (SBA) National Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards to receive comments from small businesses about federal agency enforcement actions. If you believe that you fall within the SBA's definition of a small business (based on your North American Industry Classification System designation, number of employees or annual receipts, as defined at 13 C.F.R. 121.201; in most cases, this means a business with 500 or fewer employees), and wish to comment on federal enforcement and compliance activities, you can call the SBA National Ombudsman's toll-free number at 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247), or submit a comment online at <https://www.sba.gov/about-sba/oversight-advocacy/office-national-ombudsman>.

Every small business that is the subject of an enforcement or compliance action is entitled to comment on the Agency's actions without fear of retaliation. EPA employees are prohibited from using enforcement or any other means of retaliation against any member of the regulated community in response to comments made under SBREFA.

Your Duty to Comply

If you receive compliance assistance or submit a comment to the SBREFA Ombudsman or Regional Fairness Boards, you still have the duty to comply with the law, including providing timely responses to EPA information requests, administrative or civil complaints, other enforcement actions or communications. The assistance information and comment processes do not give you any new rights or defenses in any enforcement action. These processes also do not affect EPA's obligation to protect public health or the environment under any of the environmental statutes it enforces, including the right to take emergency remedial or emergency response actions when appropriate. Those decisions will be based on the facts in each situation. The SBREFA Ombudsman and Fairness Boards do not participate in resolving EPA's enforcement actions. Also, remember that to preserve your rights, you need to comply with all rules governing the enforcement process.

EPA is disseminating this information to you without making a determination that your business or organization is a small business as defined by Section 222 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act or related provisions.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the foregoing Proposed Administrative Order was sent to the following persons, in the manner specified, on the date below:

Signed Original E-mailed: Regional Hearing Clerk (R6ORC)
U.S. EPA, Region 6
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75270
vaughn.loreana@epa.gov

File Stamped Copy Mailed: Mr. Bruce W. Marlin, Sr.
dba Marlin Oil and Gas
P.O. Box 149
Wynona, Oklahoma 74084

Electronic Copy: Ms. Kristine Talbot
Ms. Jeanne Eckhart
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1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75270
talbot.kristine@epa.gov
eckhart.jeanne@epa.gov

Ms. Robin Phillips, Superintendent
Bureau of Indian Affairs
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Ms. Jann Hayman, Director
Osage Nation Department of Natural Resources
100 W. Main, Suite 304
Pawhuska, OK 74056
jannhayman@osagenation-nsn.gov

Dated: 8/2/2021

