

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 18, 2008 6:20 PM  
**Subject:** Vehicle Expectations

**Importance:** High

Over the past few months, a number of incidents have occurred in the basin in which wellsite piping and pipeline tie-ins have been struck by vehicles, resulting in uncontrolled gas releases. Fortunately, none of these have ignited or resulted in injury to anyone but, if they continue, it is obviously just a matter of time until a release finds an ignition source. As a result, I would like to make sure everyone is aware of expectations relative to the vehicle paths on BP locations. Due to the variety of wellsite and road layouts, no single set of "rules" can be put in place but, rather, a set of guiding principles can be applied to the way we conduct ourselves.

First - It is expected that all vehicles will remain on established roadways, including the "BLM teardrop". We need to remain aware that the presence of tire tracks is often viewed as permission for the next person to do the same thing. They may not be aware of the hazards associated with one of our locations and could place themselves at great risk. In the near term, we will be establishing a more effective traffic control, signage and marking approach (e.g. hi-visibility markers and/or barricades) to better define these pathways but in the interim, most locations have a fairly definite single entrance and exit point that should be honored. Keep in mind that you are to stop at the entrance to a wellsite and make a determination that it is safe to proceed.

Second - Wherever we are traveling, we need to attempt to maintain the maximum practical clearance between the vehicle we are driving and these very dangerous fixed objects. Contrary to our own human nature, we shouldn't drive as near the markers or barricades as possible but rather as far away as we can. Why take the risk? Additionally, remember those tire tracks I mentioned? Don't be fooled into assuming that the person who made them had any concept of personal safety.

Third – At least two of these incidents involved light vehicles backing into "dog-legs" next to a road. Never allow a vehicle, whether you're driving it or not, to back into an area that hasn't been checked for obstructions. Better yet, avoid backing if at all possible.

Finally - If a vehicle must be operated within 10' of hydrocarbon equipment or piping, a Hot Work permit is required to be completed before entering the restricted space. This is a BP policy all are expected to observe. It is in place to protect you and those around you from the danger of possibly igniting any leaks or vents.

Please let me know if there are any questions and remember – nothing is more important than making sure everyone arrives home safely at the end of the day.

**Kelly K. Hart**

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