

Miguel Adrian Ceballos  
4444 Dumas CT Denver CO 80239  
Tel 720.666.1706  
Miguelceballosruiz@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 1, 2018

Dear State Legislatures,

I began working in the oilfield in December of 2011, for a casing crew putting pipe down the well after it was drilled. Casing is installed at each stage of drilling. We would lift the pipe from the site ground onto the rig floor, with a laydown machine. Then lift 50 feet in the air, bringing it down to screw onto the pipe that was going down into the ground, or well, next. To allow the pipe to fill with mud, a special tool is installed on the first pipe and is later drilled through by the drill bit. The pipe is full of "mud" or drilling fluid throughout the casing operation.

This fluid is made by Mud engineers, its context is not disclosed. It is proprietary information. Off to the side of the rig floor there casing operations are happening, would be rig hands or roughnecks dumping sack after sack of mystery powder into the shakers to mix into the mud.

To fill the pipe with mud, a large hose with a valve is placed next to the casing operation on the rig floor. A hand, or worker with the casing crew would be responsible of filling the pipe with mud, as the next pipe is being lifted from the ground. The only way for that hand to know if the pipe is almost full, is to lower his head towards the pipe and listen to the sound of the filling pipe. The entire casing crew would be all covered in mud, often when the valve was not closed at the right time. The mud would blast everywhere on the rig floor.

While running casing the greatest danger is hitting H<sub>2</sub>S gas, or Hydrogen Sulfide. According to OSHA, exposure at high concentrations: shock, convulsions, inability to breathe, coma, death, affects can be rapid within a few breaths. Hitting H<sub>2</sub>S gas is a common occurrence.

I risked my life for oil. We put the safety of the public at risk every time we drill a well. There is no such thing as safe drilling and, by extension, safe oil production that does not have the potential to harm workers and nearby residents. I have been on a rig that hit H<sub>2</sub>S gas, little was done to notify the rancher whose house was within half a mile of the site.

This bill will help make oil and gas production safer.

Warm regards,

**Miguel Adrian Ceballos**