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**Osage Pipeline Leaks 42,042 Gallons of Crude Oil into Skull Creek in Payne County, Oklahoma**

BELLINGHAM, WA [July 14, 2022]- On July 8, Holly Energy Partners' Osage Pipeline leaked approximately 1,001 barrels, equivalent to 42,042 gallons of crude oil, into Skull Creek in Payne County, Oklahoma. The spill occurred on a below-ground 20-inch steel transmission line and is located about 50 miles west of Tulsa, OK.

Skull Creek is a tributary of the Cimarron River, and according to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the Cimarron River is a major source of water for the state of Oklahoma. The USGS states that the demand for water resources, and in particular in Payne County, has caused increasing withdrawals from the Cimarron River alluvial aquifer for a variety of uses, ranging from agricultural to public use. The USGS also notes that the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is concerned about the sustainability of the water source for future generations of tribal members.

It is not known how or if the spill has breached the Cimarron River or impacted the aquifer. As currently noted, clean-up of the spill is still ongoing. The last known update was provided 48 hours after the reported spill discovery. It was listed that the local sheriff was notified of the crude oil release.

"It's discouraging to hear of another crude oil spill into treasured freshwater sources," Pipeline Safety Trust Communications Director Kenneth Clarkson said. "This leak directly affects the life of an important ecosystem. We expect a thorough investigation into the cause of this failure. We must prevent future harm to our creeks and rivers."

**About Pipeline Safety Trust:** The Pipeline Safety Trust is a nonprofit public watchdog promoting pipeline safety through education and advocacy by increasing access to information, and by building partnerships with residents, safety advocates, government and industry, that result in safer communities and a healthier environment.

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