

## **Ravalli County Commissioners Office**

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**From:** MACO <MACO@mtcounties.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 18, 2015 2:44 PM  
**To:** MACO  
**Subject:** Poplar Pipeline spill response

As we take the time to begin to look back at the initial stages of our ongoing efforts on the Poplar Pipeline spill response, we have taken some time to reflect on the outstanding work done by our local people, especially that done by our DES Coordinator Mary Jo Gehmert, and Sanitarian Kevin Pena. Their dedication and commitment to enacting our Emergency Response Plan in a situation which was drastically changing and escalating was second to none. They routinely went above and beyond the call of duty in their efforts to keep Dawson County and its citizen's safe during an extremely trying time.

We would like to take the time to commend and applaud them for doing a fantastic job as our DES Coordinator and Sanitarian. While we continue to learn and grow from the incident, we recognize that some early messages and requests may have implied that we were not supportive of our local office. We wish to take this opportunity to apologize to Mary Jo and Kevin, and to show our support publicly for the terrific work that they did. We could not be more pleased with the level of effort and knowledge that they put forth and the leadership provided at the local level for our emergency operations.

Dawson County Commissioners

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