

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

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By learning about the misfortunes of others, it is STI's hope to educate the public by creating a greater awareness of the hazards with storage and use of petroleum and chemicals. Please refer to the many industry standards and to the fire and building codes for further guidance on the safe operating practices with hazardous liquids. Thanks and credit for content are given to Dangerous Goods-Hazmat Group Network.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DangerousGoods/>

USA, CT, BRIDGEPORT

SEPTEMBER 22 2014.

WAREHOUSE FIRE UNDERSCORES NEED TO TRACK CHEMICALS

Brian Lockhart

Like many of her neighbors along Seaview Avenue, Gladys Fernandez said she had no idea potentially explosive chemicals were stored in the old industrial buildings across the street.

"Nobody knew that was going on," Hernandez said.

Then a five-alarm blaze literally blew the lid off what, intentionally or not, had been the Rowayton Trading Co.'s quiet operation as purveyors of pigments, fragrance oils, dyes and other materials to manufacturers worldwide.

Hundreds of metal drums of chemicals burst, accompanied by loud booms and fireballs, turning the dense residential neighborhood into what some witnesses described as a war zone.

Now questions are being asked about who knew what about Rowayton's operation, whether the company followed all state and federal reporting requirements for what was kept on site, and whether those go far enough.

"Rowayton Trading -- I don't know anybody who knew what it was," said David Dobbs, a fire union vice president.

Councilwomen Lydia Martinez and Milta Feliciano, D-137, who represent the area, said they were in the dark.

"To some extent, we should know what's taking place in the community, especially when it's so close to where people live," Feliciano said.

The fire may have not only exposed gaps in what residents know, or should know, about local businesses, but in getting lifesaving information to emergency responders who charge into chaotic conflagrations.

For example, according to city officials, firefighters arrived on the scene at 6:45 p.m., but did not have good data on whether there might be hazardous substances inside until the owner showed up around 9:30 p.m.

"It's critical to note a fire scene is fluid especially that of a five-alarm fire in a difficult area," said Brett Broesder, spokesman for Mayor Bill Finch. "Like every city agency, the fire department continually evaluates and re-evaluates internal police procedures and incident command at specific events such as this."

Martinez said, "We need to dig into the laws of Connecticut and of the city to see what else this calls for."

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Scary and unknown

Nearly a week after flames demolished Rowayton's storage facility on the evening of Sept. 11, dozens of 55-gallon drums stood exposed amid the collapsed brick walls, charred timbers and twisted metal.

The investigation into the fire is in the early stages because it took a few days to extinguish the smoldering debris.

Rowayton's owner, Carl Westhella, did not return requests for comment for this story. But in a brief interview following the disaster, Westhella said the drums held "concentrated fragrance oils."

So far, state environmental officials, focused on what might have been released into the air and water have, through air samples and other initial analysis, found nothing to disprove Westhella's explanation.

"All those factors point in a good direction," said Dennis Schain, spokesman for the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

The state Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Aquaculture is also testing clams and oysters harvested just outside of Bridgeport after a reddish foam flowed into the waters from the fire into the harbor. But unofficially, that odd, wine-like color has been attributed to a dye from Rowayton Trading.

Fernandez said the incident was made even scarier for neighbors because it fell on the 13th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

"They were saying it was perfume," Fernandez said. "I know it was blowing up a lot in there."

Delays and confusion

Authorities said their investigation will make sure Rowayton previously shared all the information required under state and federal laws about the substances at the Seaview Avenue facility.

According to a timeline provided by Broesder and prepared by Bridgeport emergency responders, the city's emergency management office had a file on Rowayton Trading with some information on what was inside.

But, Broesder said, there was a delay of several hours in locating it because of confusion surrounding the industrial complex's exact address. The initial phone call came from 2101 Seaview Avenue but the exact address of the fire for the purposes of researching the building and its contents remained unknown.

Just after 8 p.m., while engaging the fire, evacuating the area, closing off streets and shutting down power, firefighters witnessed chemicals spilling into the water adjacent to the property, Broesder said.

The search for any data on hazardous materials began within the city's Office of Emergency Management, but the address was still in question. The DEEP, the federal Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Coast Guard were all contacted, per protocol.

Broesder said a second call for hazardous materials information was made to emergency management at 9 p.m. and a call was also placed to the Fairfield County Hazardous Incident Response Team.

Between 9:30 and 10 p.m., Westhella arrived on scene with a brief explanation of the chemicals inside and the HazMat team provided a storage diagram.

By 11 p.m., the city's file on Rowayton Storage was brought to the scene.

Dobbs said from the start that the department, lacking details, smartly treated the blaze like a HazMat call.

"We had competent people working and made good decisions," he said.

Norwalk Fire Chief Denis McCarthy, former chairman of the HazMat team, agreed. He said when a blaze is severe and the conditions are in question, "You treat everything as if it is an imminent threat to life and health."

Hazard tracking

City Councilwoman Michelle Lyons, D-134, is a co-chairwoman of the Council's public safety committee and has a brother-in-law employed with the Bridgeport Fire Department.

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"All buildings that have flammable material should be on a list and that list given to the fire department," Lyons said. "Their lives are at risk. ... This way they know what equipment to bring and they're aware."

There are different levels of reporting criteria that apply to businesses.

The federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act requires companies dealing in certain types and amounts of hazardous materials to make that information available to emergency responders and the public.

The EPCRA was passed by Congress in the wake of a 1984 Union Carbide disaster in Bhopal, India, that killed or severely injured more than 2,000, according to the EPA.

"Rowayton Trading was not a reporter to us," the DEEP's Schain said. "So now we're looking to review, 'What did they have? How much? And was it OK they did not report?'"

There are also notification requirements under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. And state statutes also require the local fire marshal be told of any hazardous materials.

State Fire Administrator Jeffrey Morrisette said, "Oftentimes companies try to fall just under the (reporting) threshold so they don't have to report."

"It doesn't necessarily take the hazard away," he said. "It somewhat minimizes it. If there is an incident, it won't be as big ... It's not illegal. They're not storing a huge amount on property. They're having it shipped in as needed."

And how quickly information is available can depend on an individual community.

"While (businesses) are supposed to get permits to do certain things, that information doesn't always flow as freely as one would like it to," Morrisette said.

Then there is the question of whether the data is stored on computers or on paper.

"Years ago a lot of companies might have sent 50, 3-inch binders," Morrisette said. "Those get packed away in an office. The fire marshal works Monday through Friday. When you have an incident, no one has access."

Outdated data

McCarthy said ideally municipalities can pre-inspect any potential fire hazards.

"That is a daunting task with all of the other demands," McCarthy said.

Dobbs and Morrisette agreed that sometimes even the most aggressive pre-planning cannot keep up with changes, particularly in large, old buildings that have been converted for different uses.

"You might have an old industrial building that's been chopped up and eight businesses operating out of one large factory, all doing different things," Dobbs said. "It gets a little hectic and hard to get your arms around what everybody's doing, what's being stored. It's just another hurdle we face in Bridgeport."

Morrisette added, "And it's not always that companies are up front in terms of what they're doing."

In July Bridgeport launched a pro-active Smart911 system, a voluntary initiative for households to create online computer profiles to provide emergency dispatchers details about the buildings and those living inside.

Dobbs said that could be helpful with commercial properties as well.

But McCarthy cautioned that, again, circumstances can quickly outpace the good intentions.

"The database in a Smart911 system becomes dated very quickly," he said. "It tends to be unreliable" and only used as a secondary source of information.

<http://www.ctpost.com/local/article/Warehouse-fire-underscores-need-to-track-chemicals-5770188.php>

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USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO

SEPTEMBER 23 2014.

30,000-GALLON TANK BURSTS IN VALLEJO, SPILLING LIQUID ASPHALT

Crews quickly controlled a small fire that broke out at an industrial plant in Vallejo Monday afternoon after a 30,000-gallon tank containing liquid asphalt burst, a fire captain said. The tank at the Syar Industries plant at 885 Lake Herman Road ruptured around 2 p.m., leaking asphalt oil, Vallejo fire Capt. Art Gonzalez said. The contents of the first tank seeped into a second large tank holding flammable oils, Gonzalez said. The ruptured tank caused a small insulation fire but the asphalt oil did not ignite and the spill was quickly contained, according to Gonzalez. No injuries were reported and there is no threat to the public. In addition to Vallejo firefighters, crews from Benicia, the nearby Valero oil refinery and Solano County Environmental Health were also called to the scene. The cause of the rupture remains under investigation. Officials at Syar Industries were not immediately available to comment on the incident.

<http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2014/09/22/30000-gallon-tank-bursts-in-vallejo-spilling-liquid-asphalt/>

USA, KS, RUSSELL CO

SEPTEMBER 24 2014.

LIGHTNING STRIKES TANK BATTERY, CAUSES FIRE

David Elliott

Lightning struck an oil tank battery Tuesday morning southwest of Bunker Hill causing a brief, but impressive fire. According to Russell County Emergency Manager Keith Haberer, the blaze was extinguished by fire crews in about 30 to 45 minutes. Fire District Five and Russell Grant crews responded as well as Russell County EMS. The fire was reported at about 7:30 AM Tuesday and was located near 190th and 4 Corners Road. No injuries occurred.

<http://www.krsl.com/local-news/4011-lightning-strikes-tank-battery-causes-fire>

ENGLAND, BIRMINGHAM

SEPTEMBER 29 2014.

HUGE KINGSBURY OIL TERMINAL LEAK COULD HAVE EXPLODED, COURT TOLD

BRITISH PIPELINE AGENCY ORDERED TO PAY £88,000 AFTER PETROL SPILLAGE WENT UNNOTICED FOR NEARLY 90 MINUTES

Paul Beard

A pipeline company has been ordered to pay £88,000 following a spillage of thousands of litres of petrol which could have exploded at Kingsbury Oil Terminal.

British Pipeline Agency Ltd had been pumping fuel through a modified pipe at the site near Tamworth for nearly an hour and a half before the leak was discovered, Warwick Crown Court was told.

BPA pleaded guilty to failing to discharge its duty under the Health and Safety at Work Act so that employees were not exposed to risk.

The company, which is a joint venture between BP Oil and Shell UK, was fined £30,000 and ordered to pay the Health and Safety Executive's costs of £58,606.58.

Tim Green, prosecuting on behalf of the HSE, said the case concerned BPA's site at the Kingsbury Oil Terminal, near Tamworth, after work was carried out on a pipeline in 2010.

It began to run fuel through the modified section of pipe at just after midnight on October 20 that year.

And it was not until an hour and 26 minutes later that it was realised a joint had failed. By that time, 37,500 litres of unleaded petrol had gushed out.

Mr Green pointed out: "The leak could have led to a cloud of fuel vapour which, if there had been a source of ignition, could have exploded."

He said BPA, which operates a network of oil pipelines throughout the UK, distributes fuel to various sites where it is stored, including Kingsbury.

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It handles a number of fuels including petrol, diesel and aviation fuel, sent in 'parcels' along the same pipeline.

That can sometimes lead to two fuels mixing, known as an interface, which is diverted to 'slop' or interface tanks from where it can be separated and then re-introduced.

With the introduction of biofuels it was decided to adapt the system to minimise contamination, and in April 2010 the work was put out to tender.

The contract to modify the pipeline was won by a company called Pipework and Welding Contracting Services which, after 16 weeks, finished connecting re-injection pipework on October 13.

"BPA had a duty to monitor the work. It transpired that the work on the manifold was defective.

"This defect led to the leakage of the fuel - and it could have been identified had their own commissioning process been adopted."

"There should have been a proper commissioning process, but there was not," said Mr Green, who pointed out that it was not properly tested with a safe substance such as water.

At 1.33am on October 20 an alarm sounded and staff found fuel gushing three feet high from the pipework, so measures were taken to close it and a clean-up operation began at 8am.

Although there was no visible vapour cloud, a supervisor at the neighbouring Warwickshire Oil Storage Ltd site said a detector there was giving off a warning.

Bernard Thorogood, defending, said: "A case like this, in which a company like this which takes its responsibilities seriously, should start, and does start, with a public apology."

But he submitted it was 'very clear the escape was the fault of other companies'. BPA's fault was in not following the commissioning procedure.

"The fluids were released because of very and unusually shoddy work by somebody else. Only three of the threads had been engaged in connecting the vertical pipe with the horizontal pipe. That was never going to be enough."

Of the actual leak, he said: "There is no aspect here of risk to the public. The actual risk is qualified by the experts. It is a long way short of providing a substantial risk."

Recorder Charles Foster said he accepted BPA generally had a responsible attitude towards health and safety, and it has carried out 'an earnest and systematic review of what went on,' and its response has the approval of the HSE.

<http://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/huge-kingsbury-oil-terminal-leak-7846078>

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**USA, TX, MARION
SEPTEMBER 29 2014.**

EXXON MOBIL CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR MARION OIL LEAK CREWS WORK TO CLEAN UP MESS LEFT FROM PIPELINE LEAK

Cory Smith

Crews continued the cleanup effort Sunday on an oil leak from a pipeline in Marion. The leak was first reported Wednesday in the 1500 block of Gemblar Road near FM 78 in Guadalupe County. More than two dozen men have been working in the rural area to remove much of the dirt that was soaked with refined oil. There are two pipelines that run through the area: one belongs to the Koch Company and the other to Exxon Mobile. Both companies had investigators in the area to determine what company was responsible for the leak. Late Saturday night Exxon claimed responsibility in a statement. "An estimate on the total amount of the release is unknown, and an investigation is under way," part of the statement read. Exxon officials also said the line is shut down and will not be reopened until they are confident it is safe to do so. The pipeline delivers refined products from Baytown to South Houston and San Antonio. Crews on the scene have installed booms to keep the product from seeping into a nearby tributary that feeds into the Santa Clara Creek. No timetable has been established as to when the cleanup will be completed and the pipeline can reopen.

<http://www.ksat.com/content/pns/ksat/news/2014/09/28/exxon-mobil-claims-responsibility-for-marion-oil-leak0.html>

**AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, POKOLBIN
OCTOBER 1 2014.**

DRAYTONS WINES FINED OVER \$200,000 FOR ETHANOL BLAST THAT KILLED TREVOR DRAYTON, EDDIE ORGO

Stephen Ryan

Drayton's Family Wines has been fined more than \$200,000 over the explosion that claimed the lives of winemaker Trevor Drayton and welder Eddie Orgo.

Workcover NSW prosecuted Drayton's, and Mr. Orgo's employer, Perfab Engineering, in the District Court's criminal jurisdiction for two breaches each of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

The explosion blew the roof off the Pokolbin winery and was felt at various locations around the Hunter Valley on the morning of January 17, 2008.

Mr. Orgo, 59, had been helping install an upgraded cooling system in the winery when he began welding on a stainless steel tank without knowing that it contained 9000 litres of ethanol known as SVR.

Vapours in the tank ignited causing a series of explosions that instantly killed Mr. Orgo and Mr. Drayton, 52, while assistant winemaker William Rikard-Bell suffered serious burns.

Judge James Curtis fined Drayton's Family Wines a total of \$210,000 and ordered them to pay the prosecutor's costs after finding them guilty of failing to provide a safe workplace. Perfab will face a sentencing hearing in December.

The prosecution came after an inquest in 2011 that identified a series of "latent conditions and active failures" that led to the explosion.

Deputy State Coroner Hugh Dillon heard evidence that the winery lacked an occupational health and safety plan and had not conducted a fire safety audit.

There was no indication that the 27,000-litre tank was holding SVR, which had been delivered to the winery eight days earlier, the inquest heard.

The SVR had been pumped into tank 104 because welders were working on tank 106 when the delivery arrived.

A former assistant winemaker told the inquest that he had warned the Draytons in 1999 or 2000 that they should be careful about storing SVR while a former Cessnock City Council fire inspector told police that he attended the winery in 2002 to conduct an audit, but was refused entry.

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Winery manager John Drayton disputed this claim at the inquest.
He declined to comment on the sentencing yesterday.

<http://www.theherald.com.au/story/2576765/draytons-fined-200000-over-fatal-blast/?cs=305%20>

USA, N.Y, ULSTER CO, MOUNT TREMPER

OCTOBER 1 2014.

JUNKYARD OWNER CHARGED WITH FELONIES FOR MOUNT TREMPER SPILL

William Hrazanek, the embattled owner of multiple Catskills junkyards, was arrested on Tuesday, Sept. 23 in connection with a chemical spill on Wittenberg Road in the Ulster County hamlet of Mount Tremper last year.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation charged 68-year-old Hrazanek with two felonies, according to Peter Constantakes, a DEC spokesman, in an email to the Watershed Post.

The charges were endangering public health, safety and the environment in the 2nd and 3rd degree and criminal mischief.

Hrazanek was arraigned on Sept. 23 before Shandaken Town Justice Thomas Cruet and was released on his own recognizance that same day, according to Constantakes.

Reached via telephone today, Hrazanek had no comment about the arrest.

The spill in Mount Tremper has been under investigation since June 13, 2013. Neighbors had noticed strong chemical fumes coming from 1420 Wittenberg Road for about a week.

"All of a sudden, one day, there was this really strong smell," Joshua Luborsky, a realtor who lives down the street from the spill site, told the Watershed Post last year. "It smelled like acetone. Something really chemical-ey. As soon as you got that section of the road, you could smell it. It was intense."

First responders from multiple agencies, including the DEC and the DEP, arrived on the scene on June 13 to investigate. One police officer became light-headed from the fumes, according to a New York City Department of Environmental Protection police report.

According to the police report, two witnesses told police that they had seen vehicles coming and going on the property. One said he had seen young men who worked for William Hrazanek, while another said he had seen cans and barrels in one of the vehicles.

Preliminary tests conducted on the substance spilled at the site found "glyoxalin," a gasoline additive, as well as other chemicals, according to the police report. The DEC later identified the spill substance as waste gasoline.

An independent contractor conducted a large environmental cleanup at the site last year. Citing the fact that its investigation is ongoing, a DEC spokeswoman refused to release more information about the extent of the spill today.

The Mount Tremper property was the longtime home of Hrazanek's family, and is now technically owned by a former girlfriend of Hrazanek's.

Last week's arrest is the second time that Hrazanek has been charged with environmental violations in 2014. In February, the DEC charged him with eight misdemeanors and three violations after finding leaky drums of oil and piles of tires on three of his Delaware County junkyards during a raid in 2013.

One of Hrazanek's junkyard properties, the former VW Parts building at 717 Wagner Avenue in Fleischmanns, burned down on August 26.

Steve Hood, the director of Delaware County Emergency Services, told the Watershed Post in an email today that the fire was an accident caused by demolition workers who were removing items from the building:

The final cause of the fire at the VW Parts building was determined to be accidental in nature, caused by workers from Euro-Nuts using a demolition saw to cut heavy pipes. The saw created sparks which went down into the wall on the side of the building next to the school.

That property and Hrazanek's warehouse at 102 Depot Street in Fleischmanns, both of which allegedly had environmental violations, are in the process of being purchased with federal with federal

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disaster funds as part of a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) buyout program.
<http://www.watershedpost.com/2014/junkyard-owner-charged-felonies-mount-tremper-spill>

USA, TX, DORCHESTER

OCTOBER 8 2104.

LIGHTNING STRIKE IGNITES OIL FIRE IN DORCHESTER

Markie Martin

A lightning strike was the cause of a big oil fire in one Texoma town early Monday morning. At about 7 A.M., lightning struck a row of oil tanks in Dorchester--resulting in a shocking explosion for nearby residents.

"Heard a lightning strike sound like it was real close to the house, and I heard a big boom right after that," said nearby resident Michael Barlow.

Barlow is one of several Dorchester homeowners who was startled early Monday morning by a lightning bolt that struck a nearby oil tank off Highway 902.

"I mean it felt like an earthquake--it blew and the whole house vibrated and it shook," said Barlow.

Another neighbor Joshua Taylor said, "Made a nice big geiser, and you saw this big explosion of a ring of fire going outwards."

Grayson County fire marshal Kevin Walton says this is what the scene looked like on and off for about three hours after the lightning ignited a domino effect on the tanks.

"It struck the first tank, which is the tank that's up there, which initiated the other two to catch on fire," said Walton.

The tanks are owned by Slawson Exploration Company, but landowner Phillip Wildman says it was his livestock that had him worried.

"You know I've got cattle on this place and that's what I was doing, I was looking to see how much of that rained down," said Wildman. "I'm going to have to move my cattle, there's an oil slick on top of the pond."

Walton says although nobody was hurt during the explosion, one nearby home was asked to evacuate. His men had to work quickly to conquer the flames.

"I think we've put 10,000 gallons of water on there so far," said Walton.

Neighbors like Taylor say they're happy the fire was contained, but it was definitely not how they expected to start their week.

"Hey, it's not every day you get to witness a lightning explosion," said Taylor.

About five different fire crews responded to the oil fire Monday morning. Departments were on-scene until late afternoon, but cleanup crews will be assessing the oil spill for the next couple of days.

<http://www.kten.com/story/26718985/lightning-strike-ignites-oil-fire-in-dorchester>

ENGLAND, ESSEX, ROCHFORD

OCTOBER 13 2014.

MAJOR FIRE IN PURDEYS INDUSTRIAL ESTATE INVOLVING DIESEL TANK CAUSES EXCLUSION ZONE

Helen Barnett

A business has been completely destroyed by a fire which caused gas cylinders to explode and residents to be evacuated.

Seven crews spent more than six hours tackling the blaze which started at 3.30am this morning in the warehouse unit at Purdeys Industrial Estate, in Rochehall Lane, Rochford.

The fire involved a diesel tank, LPG cylinders and an acetylene cylinder, some of which exploded when crews arrived on site.

They set up a 200m exclusion zone around the unit and had to evacuate residents from their houseboats on the river Roach.

Crews used three ground monitors to control the blaze and protect surrounding risks, including a

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ruptured diesel tank which has spilled fuel.

Assistant divisional officer Paul Chipperfield, incident commander, said: "On arrival crews were faced with a well developed fire with explosions being caused by cylinders inside the building. They immediately put monitors down and withdrew to a safe distance.

"Their swift action in getting monitors on the fire meant that we were able to contain the blaze to the unit it started in and prevent it from spreading. It is thanks to the fantastic job these crews did when they first arrived that we were able to contain this fire to the unit it started in."

Crews from Southend and Hawkwell were joined by another Southend crew plus engines from Leigh, Rayleigh Weir and Orsett, as well as a hose layer from Rayleigh Weir and Chelmsford's water bowser.

The fire was extinguished just after 9.45am and left the scene at 11am. But they returned this afternoon to begin an investigation to establish the cause of the blaze.

Divisional officer Mark Earwicker said: "The fire was in a workshop used to maintain vehicles and involved a number of cylinders and barrels of oil which led to the blaze quickly escalating in the way it did. One of the cylinders involved was an acetylene cylinder. Once these are heated a chemical reaction starts within the cylinder which can lead to an explosion. This explosion can send shrapnel flying over 200 metres, so we put a hazard zone in place.

"The cylinder is tested at regular intervals to see if it has cooled. Once we are certain it has cooled and is no longer a hazard then we remove the hazard zone. This happened at around 08:30hrs this morning."

The exclusion zone has been removed and residents have been allowed to return to their houseboats.

[http://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/11529700.UPDATE Major fire involving diesel tank causes exclusion zone/](http://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/11529700.UPDATE_Major_fire_involving_diesel_tank_causes_exclusion_zone/)

USA, TX, LONGVIEW

OCTOBER 14 2014.

RESIDENTS ALLOWED BACK IN HOMES NEAR TANK BATTERY FIRE SITE

Michael Cavazos

Residents are being allowed back in their homes after a tank battery fire caused the evacuation of about 20 homes and 13 businesses this morning in Longview.

The blaze at the tank battery near Enchanted Lane and H.G. Mosley Parkway started is believed to have started by lightning at about 6:14 a.m., according to Longview Fire Marshal Johnny Zackary, and it one of three fires to which emergency personnel responded this morning.

H.G. Mosley Parkway has been reopened to motorists after a portion was closed as emergency crews worked near the scene of the blaze.

The fire is now out. Zackary said there were about 240 barrels of product in the tank at the time of fire.

The attic of a home not far from the oil well site caught fire shortly after 8 a.m. Fire crews already in the area responded to the blaze in the 1000 block of Riverwood Drive.

Zackary said lightning was also likely the cause of the blaze at 6:19 a.m. in the 1600 block of Pine Ridge Drive.

No injuries were reported with any of the fires.

http://www.news-journal.com/news/police/residents-allowed-back-in-homes-near-tank-battery-fire-site/article_169c125c-52d3-11e4-aae6-afea8ba1d856.html

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

USA, PA, HARRISBURG

OCTOBER 15 2014.

PA. FINES WESTERN PA. COMPANY OVER TANK EXPLOSION

Pennsylvania environmental regulators are fining a western Pennsylvania company over a 2013 explosion that killed a contractor. The Department of Environmental Protection said Tuesday it assessed a \$62,000 fine against Reed Oil Company for the Mercer County incident, other violations at that site and issues at a Lawrence County facility. The state says the company had people who aren't properly certified working on its above-ground storage tanks. It says the company also didn't have mandatory secondary containment for many of its tanks, and tanks weren't being inspected as required. Work is continuing to restore soil damaged by a spill during the August 2013 incident. A call to the company's offices in New Castle wasn't immediately returned Tuesday.

<http://www.abc27.com/story/26785871/pa-fines-western-pa-company-over-tank-explosion>

CANADA, AB, HARDISTY

OCTOBER 16 2014.

TANK FIRE NEAR HARDISTY EXTINGUISHED, AREA HIGHWAYS REOPENED

Julia Parris

Officials with the Town of Hardisty said emergency crews were called out to a fire in the area Wednesday afternoon, it took crews much of the afternoon to put the fire out. A fire was reported on Husky's site, and officials said the fire was contained within the tank at the Hardisty Tank Farm. Companies at the tank farm and contractors were evacuated as a precaution. Occupational Health and Safety said two workers were cleaning a tank containing hydrocarbon at the time of the incident. OHS said one worker; a man in his 20s, suffered burns to his hands, and was taken to hospital in Edmonton. The other worker was not injured. A stop-work order has been issued for the worksite. In addition, officials have issued an air quality advisory for the area – saying poor air quality could affect health and visibility in the area. Range Road 95 south of Highway 13 was closed as a result of the fire, and motorists were warned of possible drifting smoke. Late Wednesday afternoon, officials said the fire appeared to be receding, and officials were evaluating the situation to determine if further efforts were needed to put out the fire. By 6:30, officials said the Hardisty fire department had been released from the scene, as the fire outside of the tank was out, although officials were looking to ensure fire had not continued burning inside the tank. After 7 p.m., officials said Range Road 95 had reopened. Emergency personnel were expected to stay on the site to keep an eye on the situation. Air quality monitoring was still in effect.

<http://edmonton.ctvnews.ca/tank-fire-near-hardisty-extinguished-area-highways-reopened-1.2055078>

CANADA, ALTA, EDMONTON

OCTOBER 18 2014.

OIL TANK FIRE AT HUSKY ALBERTA SITE SENDS WORKER TO HOSPITAL

A worker in Alberta was hospitalized Wednesday after a flash fire broke out while he was cleaning an oil tank at a terminal owned by Husky Energy. Two men working for Davco Welding, a local subcontractor, were cleaning an empty tank when the blaze broke out, the Edmonton Journal said. An unnamed man in his 20s was taken to Edmonton hospital for burn injuries to his hands. Emergency responders arrived at the scene shortly after the explosion and extinguished the fire. Paul Sigworth, a man working near the tank when the fire started, said there was "billowing black smoke coming from the actual tanks." A section of the tank farm near the terminal was evacuated and Calgary-based Husky halted operations at the Hardisty facility as a precautionary measure. The Occupational Health and Safety agency suspended work around the tanks and is currently investigating the incident.

<http://petroglobalnews.com/2014/10/oil-tank-fire-at-husky-alberta-site-sends-worker-to-hospital/>

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

NIGERIA, OYO STATE, IBADAN

OCTOBER 19 2014.

SECURITY GUARD DIES WHILE SIPHONING PETROL FROM UNDERGROUND TANK

A security guard working with Jofes petrol station, Yemetu area of Ibadan, Oyo State, one Abdulkareem Kazeem, has been found dead in a manhole leading to an underground tank while he was trying to siphon fuel. Sunday Tribune learnt that the death was reported on October 15, 2014 at about 9.20a.m. at Yemetu Division of Oyo State Police Command by the manager of the petrol station, one Mr Oladapo Ogunleye. The manager was said to have discovered the security guard's body at about 6.30a.m. of same day when he wanted to dip a measuring rod into the underground tank to know the level of the left-over. A 25-litre jerry can containing about 15 litres of petrol which had already been siphoned, a semi-rotating pump and hose were also found with the deceased inside the manhole while one other 50-litre keg of fuel already siphoned was recovered. The scene was visited by a team of detectives led by one Inspector Adeyemo Kadiri, after which the fire service was called to remove the body from the manhole. The remains were deposited in the mortuary but it was learnt that the deceased's family members took a sworn affidavit to the Divisional Police Officer, saying that they were muslims and would like to bury the dead immediately. When contacted, the police image maker in Oyo state, Olabisi Okuwobi-Ilobanafor, confirmed the story. <http://www.tribune.com.ng/news/news-headlines/item/19056-security-guard-dies-while-siphoning-petrol-from-underground-tank>