

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

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

## **USA, TX, JASPER CO**

**AUGUST 27 2011.**

### **WORKERS UNCLEAR ABOUT SOURCE OF EXPLOSION AT LATCH OIL IN JASPER**

*Jodie Warne*

A large fire broke out at Latch Oil, Inc. located on TX 63 West in Jasper shortly after 4 pm on Friday.

Reports are still unclear on how the blaze began, but a worker spotted the hazard and evacuated the office right before the building was soon surrendered to a huge shore of flames as the source exploded.

So far the reports have stated that workers were transferring one of the substances from one place to another and that possibly a fan could have caused a spark which ignited the substance.

The fumes were strong, they were detectable from miles down starting at Jasper Junior High in a matter of minutes.

Currently the only loss is the corporate "lube office" and warehouse as well as the employee break room and locker rooms.

The "lube office" is mainly responsible for the product portion of Latch Oil Inc, meaning every other product gasoline such as motor oil, tractor fluid, and even product such as "Run Flat" that are distributed to individuals as well as companies within the area and Louisiana.

<http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/article/Update-Workers-unclear-about-source-of-explosion-2143199.php#ixzz1Zv8fnpEO>

## **USA, W.VA, MARSHALL CO**

**AUGUST 27 2011.**

### **FAMILY OF MAN KILLED IN AEP EXPLOSION AWARDED \$6.9 MILLION**

A Marshall County jury awarded nearly \$7 million to a Tyler County man killed as a result of an explosion at an American Electric Power plant in Ohio.

Lewis Timmons was killed at an AEP plant in Beverly, Ohio, on January 8, 2007. A jury found that that the negligence of AEP Service Corp. and its subsidiary, Ohio Power Co., resulted in Timmons' death and awarded Timmons' family \$6,998,940.

The two-week trial included testimony from numerous experts, including compressed-gas experts. According to the news release from the Wheeling law firm of Bordas & Bordas, PLLC, the explosion was caused by the dangerous conditions on a hydrogen storage tank at the Muskingum River facility.

Evidence during the trial showed that AEP had experienced a similar explosion at its Kammer Plant in Marshall County about 15 months earlier, but had not taken steps to correct the problem at the Muskingum River facility following the Kammer explosion.

According to the news release from Bordas & Bordas, the family's attorney Geoffrey Brown, said, "When large corporations don't do things responsibly, they run the risk that someone is going to be seriously hurt or killed. Tragically, in this case, that person was Mr. Timmons. Hopefully, this jury's verdict will cause other companies to think twice in the future before choosing to ignore safety issues at their facilities."

Brown and Chris Regan, both of Bordas & Bordas, along with Rod Windom and Scott Windom of Harrisville, W.Va., represented the Timmons family. Circuit Court Judge David Hummel presided over the case.

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This case followed the June verdict returned by a Washington County, Ohio, jury in the amount of nearly \$5.7 million to Drumand McLaughlin of Caldwell, Ohio, who suffered injuries in the same explosion.

McLaughlin was also represented by Bordas & Bordas and the Windom law firm. Regan stated, "Two juries have now found that AEP acted with conscious disregard for human life in this case. Nonetheless, AEP continues to try to evade responsibility and claim that no matter how bad its behavior, it owes nothing to the victims and should face no punishment. We disagree."

<http://www.wtov9.com/news/28990364/detail.html>

## **USA, N.C, NEW RIVER AIR STATION**

**AUGUST 27 2011.**

### **INVESTIGATION CONTINUES IN AIR STATION FUEL SPILL**

*Hope Hodge*

Officials with the New River Air Station said Wednesday that an investigation into a mid-August fuel leak is still pending, though plans for restoration of the affected region are underway.

The Aug. 9 spill, caused by a leak in a fuel pipeline at the air station, deposited more than 8,000 gallons of fuel in surface water and dirt before the problem was discovered. Using oil-absorbing booms and vacuum trucks, air station officials recovered much of the fuel, dredging up more than half the spilled amount within 24 hours of the incident.

On Aug. 16, the air station announced it had recovered 8,040 gallons of fuel and was transitioning from recovery efforts to restoration of the affected area.

Air station spokesman Staff Sgt. Robert Fisher said two companies, Osage Environmental and O&D Environmental, had been contracted complete the restoration.

"We contracted them to excavate and remove contaminated soils and vegetation from the ditches and then restore those areas with clean soils," he said.

Fisher said it was unclear when the work would be complete, as timelines were tentative pending the arrival of Hurricane Irene.

Meanwhile, he said, an investigation into the cause of the leak has yet to return any answers.

Fisher said information would be released when the investigation was complete.

The fuel line was inspected and restored to full operation within a week of the spill, following containment of the leaked fuel. Officials said there was no risk of the spill affecting air station drinking water, because of the distance of the spill location from active wells.

<http://www.enctoday.com/articles/air-94326-jdn-fuel-station.html>

## **USA, N.Y, RYE**

**AUGUST 30 2011.**

### **RYE APARTMENTS MAY BE UNINHABITABLE FOR WEEKS AFTER 7,000-GALLON OIL SPILL**

*Ned P. Rauch*

A fuel tank that ruptured at the Highlands apartment complex in Rye during the flooding from Tropical Storm Irene spilled as much as 7,000 gallons of oil and will likely keep residents out of their homes for weeks.

Officials told residents Monday that they could not return to the damaged building for now.

"How do I start over?" tenant Jennifer Meehan said. "I have nowhere to go."

The building, on Highland Road between Wappanocca Avenue and Purchase Street, has 99 residential units and three businesses.

On Monday morning, the waters had receded, but the fuel, as a single sniff of the air made immediately clear, remained.

Heather McGill, spokeswoman for the Department of Health, said that before tenants can return, the building must be decontaminated and its crippled electrical system repaired. Gill said it could take several weeks for residents on the upper floors to be able to move back in; for residents who live in 10 units directly affected by the oil spill, the cleanup could take much longer.

McGill said the state will work with the building's owners to see that tenants receive lodging while their apartments are repaired.

As for the fuel oil, McGill said the heavy rains dissipated it before it reached the Long Island Sound.

Ralph Della Cava, one of the building's owners, said management would take its direction from the Department of Health. He referred questions to his partner, Robert Cohen, who did not return a message.

Residents criticized the management for its response to the flood and oil spill and also for allowing people to

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live in apartments below ground level. They said prior floods showed those apartments were vulnerable and Irene proved it.

The waterline in Meehan's apartment was higher than 6 feet up the wall. Her furniture and refrigerator were piled in a corner, and her belongings were scattered throughout.

Meehan, a nurse practitioner, had to crawl out through a window at 6:45 a.m. Sunday because the electronic locks on her doors would not open.

Asked what she left behind, she answered, "Everything."

<http://www.lohud.com/article/20110830/NEWS02/108300320/Rye-apartments-may-uninhabitable-weeks-after-7-000-gallon-oil-spill>

## **USA, N.J., MAHWAH**

**AUGUST 31 2011.**

### **LEAKED FUEL IN RAMAPO RIVER SETS OFF CONCERNS**

*Stephanie Akin, Shawn Boburg and Allison Pries*

A flooded diesel and home heating oil facility across the New York border leaked fuel into the Ramapo River Sunday and Monday, setting off health and environmental concerns and causing downstream residents to complain of overpowering fumes.

"The stench is amazing," said Oakland Mayor John P. Szabo. "I'm worried about the health effects of prolonged exposure to this."

Estimates varied, but some officials said well over 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel, home heating oil or both could have leaked into the river.

Officials traced the spill to SOS Xtreme Comfort, a riverside fuel company in Tuxedo, NY. The facility was severely damaged after a dam in Arden, N.Y., was breached during the heaviest part of Irene.

Geoff Welch, chairman of the non-profit Ramapo River Committee, said he smelled the fuel and saw the slick while he was taking pictures of the river Sunday in Sloatsburg, just downstream of the spill.

"I'm very worried," he said. "It's the worst spill I've seen in the river."

Welch, who has testified in court cases as an expert on the river, said such contamination could harm the river's ecosystem, linger in sand and gravel deposits, and leach into municipal water supplies through wells that service Oakland, Mahwah and Pompton Lakes.

Officials from the New York Department of Environmental Conservation were studying oil storage tanks and trucks on the property Monday to determine how much fuel had been lost, Tuxedo police Chief Patrick Welsh said.

"They're trying to rule out everything, to rule out the worst possible scenario and hope for the best," he said.

Welsh said the leak had stopped, but a New York DEC official at the scene, who declined to give his name because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said it was still leaking.

Mahwah police Chief James Batelli said one of his officers was told 10,000 to 15,000 gallons of diesel fuel had spilled into the river.

A spokesman for the DEC said the agency observed six, 3,000-gallon tankers that were empty and several smaller tankers parked in an area where flood waters had receded. "We are still gathering information," Michael Bopp said, adding that it's unclear whether any of the tankers had fuel in them prior to being submerged in floodwaters.

More than a dozen tractor trailers were parked on the grounds Monday evening, one of them jackknifed against another. Another truck swept away by the flood waters was pressed against a large fuel storage tank.

General manager Al Silberlicht said about 30,000 gallons of fuel oil and diesel fuel were stored on this site.

Robert Spiegel, one of the company owners, said the leak was "relatively small," and that Hazmat teams on the property had told him it was smaller than they expected.

"We know the limited amount [of fuel] we had in each tank," he said. "We weren't storing that much product."

He said three trucks that were in the flood were empty because they had made deliveries on Saturday. Other trucks loaded with diesel fuel or heating oil were hit by water, but their seals remained intact, he said.

Silberlicht said the company had operated the Tuxedo facility since 1976 and had never experienced such extensive flooding.

Residents across the river from the facility were skeptical of accounts that downplayed the spill.

Kristian Matthews and other area residents said they could smell strong gas fumes in their homes, some of which they said came from floodwaters that had entered their basements. One woman said it made her feel sick, and Matthews said he felt a burning sensation in his eyes.

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A quarter mile downriver, residents pointed to two large oil tanks that had lodged in a flooded area of the woods. One was a 3,000 gallon red tank, and the second, a white tank printed with "S.O.S." and "Diesel Max," was a 500-gallon tank. The smell of gasoline was so strong near the tanks that several residents said they could not stand in the area longer than a few minutes.

Ramiro Cruz said he saw an additional three tanks floating down the river Sunday.

"This morning, we had to close the windows to our house because it was so bad," he said.

Michelle Micklos said when she woke up Monday morning, "All I smelled was diesel."

New Jersey officials began receiving reports of the smell Monday morning. Bergen County Hazmat Team Supervisor Jim Taradash said they sent two first responders to the Tuxedo facility after receiving several complaints.

"We are continuing to monitor the situation," he said.

An official from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection was also traveling to the Tuxedo facility Monday afternoon to investigate, DEP spokesman Larry Hajna said. He added that New Jersey officials could do little to contain the spill on this side of the border until the flooding subsided.

"It will have to just run its course down the river and dissipate with the flood waters," he said.

He advised anyone experiencing odors or physical sensations associated with the smell to stay away from the river.

The smell itself was warning enough for some Oakland and Mahwah residents.

Howard Wisse, whose Glen Gray Road house in Oakland was still submerged Monday, admonished his young son for attempting to dip a toe in the flood waters.

"Get back!" he said. "I don't want you in there! You can smell home heating oil everywhere!"

Officials said they were assessing health risks from the spill and those in Mahwah said they would turn off municipal water wells along the river as a precaution.

Local environmental experts said even small amounts of fuel could cause major damage.

"When you have oil tanks leaking into the river, you can have quite a bit of health impacts," said Jeff Tittel, director of the New Jersey chapter of the Sierra Club. "It can get into water supplies, fisheries, into people's homes. You can have major problems."

[http://www.northjersey.com/news/082911\\_Possible\\_oil\\_spill\\_in\\_Ramapo\\_River.html?page=all](http://www.northjersey.com/news/082911_Possible_oil_spill_in_Ramapo_River.html?page=all)

### **USA, N.J., TRENTON**

**AUGUST 30 2011.**

#### **HURRICANE IRENE RUPTURES 9 FUEL TANKS ACROSS N.J.; COULD PRODUCE LOCAL POLLUTION**

*Leslie Kwoh*

The state Department of Environmental Protection said today it is monitoring at least nine fuel tanks that ruptured as a result of Hurricane Irene.

Most of the leaking storage tanks, located across Bergen, Middlesex and Union counties, are privately owned and thus smaller than commercial containers, said department spokesman Larry Hajna.

"If they leaked, there would be pollution either in the ground or in the water, but the effects would be localized," he said.

The tanks are a mix of underground and above-ground containers. Hajna said he could not be more specific about the locations of the containers, but stressed that the situation was far from severe.

"It's actually a surprisingly low number, considering the amount of flooding that's going on," he said.

However, leaking tanks — or sewage, for that matter — aren't the only safety concern after a big storm like Hurricane Irene, according to Jeff Tittel, director of the New Jersey chapter of the Sierra Club.

Rising flood waters can also transport a "witch's brew of chemicals" from contaminated sites into the waterways, impacting wildlife and drinking water supplies, he said.

"There could be a lot of environmental damage," he said.

In the long term, Tittel said the state should look into options that would reduce the potential for flooding, such as buying up flood-prone properties, restoring flood plains by natural means, and limiting upstream development.

[http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/08/hurricane\\_irene\\_ruptions\\_9\\_fue.html](http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/08/hurricane_irene_ruptions_9_fue.html)

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

**USA, WYO, CONVERSE CO**

**AUGUST 30 2011.**

## **3 WORKERS KILLED IN EXPLOSION AT WYOMING PRODUCTION SITE**

*Ben Neary*

All three workers killed in an oilfield explosion in eastern Wyoming were men, and all three died at the scene of the latest deadly workplace mishap in the state, authorities said Tuesday.

The blast occurred Monday at an oil production site on a private ranch, about 50 miles northeast of Casper.

It came as the men worked on a fuel line supplying a heater treatment facility that separates oil from water as the materials are pumped from the ground, said Dennis Neill, spokesman for Samson Resources Co. in Tulsa, Okla.

The blast sparked a 10-acre fire before it was brought under control.

The names of the men killed have not yet been released.

Wyoming, a top energy-producing state, for years has ranked among the highest states in terms of per capita workplace fatalities.

Last summer, Wyoming lost its title to Montana as the deadliest state in the nation for workers, largely due to a slowdown in Wyoming's gas industry.

In July, a newly built gas pipeline exploded in northeastern Wyoming. No one was hurt, but the blast could be heard 10 miles away and left a 50-foot-long trench in the ground.

The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported last week that the number of occupational fatalities in the state rose to 34 last year — an increase of nearly 79 percent from the prior year. Of those 34 deaths, 10 were in the natural resources and mining sector.

A bill that would have increased employer penalties for workplace safety violations was rejected early last year in the Wyoming State Senate. Then-Gov. Dave Freudenthal had urged passage of the bill, which was supported by industry groups.

The workers in Monday's blast were employed by a contractor that Samson had hired to bring an oil well back into production at the site, Neill said. The well wasn't involved in the explosion or the fire on the Hornbuckle Ranch.

J.D. Danni, manager of the Wyoming Occupational Safety & Health Administration program, said Tuesday that Samson hasn't received any citations from the state in recent years.

Converse County Sheriff Clint Becker said Tuesday he didn't believe there were any witnesses to the explosion, and there was no word yet on what caused it.

Becker said the workers were men who died at the scene. He said forensic work will be needed to determine their identities.

Neill declined to name the company that employed the workers. Samson officials were traveling to the area on Monday and state and federal investigators were on the scene, he said. The company planned to issue another statement Tuesday.

"Obviously we're very concerned about the family and friends in this situation," Neill said.

The state of Wyoming is investigating the blast through its Department of Workforce Services.

Danni said his office has two investigators on the scene to determine the cause of the explosion and whether any workplace safety violations contributed to it.

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/nation/7368414-418/blast-at-wyoming-oil-production-site-kills-3-workers.html>

**CHINA, DALIAN**

**AUGUST 31 2011.**

## **FIRE AT DALIAN OIL REFINERY RAISES TENSIONS IN CHINA**

A major Chinese petrochemical hub in the northwestern city of Dalian suffered its fifth major safety incident in just over a year on Monday, further ratcheting up tensions with environmental protesters.

In the latest incident, a fire in a diesel tank at an oil refinery belonging to Chinese state oil major PetroChina sent clouds of black smoke billowing into the sky, filling the air with the pungent smell of burning oil, witnesses reported.

The fire comes two weeks after Dalian was rocked by a 12,000-strong demonstration demanding the closure of a chemical plant which had threatened to discharge toxic gases into the air after its protective sea wall was breached by a typhoon.

The fire at the PetroChina refinery, the company's largest with a total crude refining capacity of 410,000 barrels a day, comes barely a month after another fire in the same facility that took firefighters six hours to bring under control on July 16.

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And in October last year PetroChina workers caused another blaze as they were dismantling an oil tank that still had fuel left inside it, Bloomberg news reported at the time.

The latest fire also comes barely a year after an explosion at a PetroChina oil storage depot in Dalian's Xingang port on July 16 2010 caused China's worst ever oil spill, sending 1,500 metric tons of into the Yellow Sea, forcing the port to close the blaze was brought under control.

PetroChina later said the latest fire, which broke out at 10am in its No. 875 diesel tank, had been brought under control by 1.20pm local time, without causing any pollution or injuries to workers or firefighters.

However the fires is the latest in a litany of disasters and near-misses that have seriously dented public confidence in Dalian's petrochemical complexes which is one of northwestern Liaoning Province's main drivers of economic growth.

Pictures and descriptions of Monday's fire soon sprang up online, with censors moving to delete some of the photographs as online users posted angry comments about the risks posed by Dalian's petrochemical industries.

"My parents live in Ganjing district, I asked them and they said they saw dense smoke billowing, they could see it from their home," said online user 'Star Crazy', "The fire engines and police cars were going by continuously, there were pungent smells in the air." Others openly raised questions about the safety culture at the plant. "Is Dalian the city with highest danger index in China?," asked 'Easy Uncle', while others said that human error, not bad luck was behind the spate of accidents.

Recalling Dalian's narrow escape earlier this month when the protective wall of a paraxylene (PX) plant had to be hastily repaired after it was breached by high waves, another commenter, 'Warm Autumn Baby', wondered if Dalian's luck was running out.

"No doubt this is a man-made disaster. This plant is a potential safety hazard, or why else would the fire disasters be so frequent?" he wrote, "Don't blame the God for everything: last time the Meihua typhoon passed Dalian, God was already very kind to the people of Dalian."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/asia/china/8729456/Fire-at-Dalian-oil-refinery-raises-tensions-in-China.html>

### **LIBYA, RAS LANUF**

**AUGUST 31 2011.**

#### **TANK BURNS AT LIBYA'S BIGGEST OIL TERMINAL**

*Alexander Dziadosz*

Libya's largest oil terminal has been damaged during fighting between rebels and forces loyal to Muammar Gaddafi, oil workers and witnesses said,

A Reuters witness saw flames and black smoke spurting from a tank at the Es-Sider oil terminal, which loaded an average of about 450,000 barrels per day before the uprising against Muammar Gaddafi began in February.

"One tank is on fire now, and we expect it will be damaged completely," one oil worker who declined to be named said, adding he believed it was hit by a rocket in the last four days.

The extent of the damage was not immediately clear, and no one at the Waha Oil Company, the state-owned firm that controls the terminal, was immediately available to comment.

The oil worker, who had come to survey the damage, said two fires had been extinguished already and no one was currently working in the terminal, which has a storage capacity of 6.3 million barrels of crude.

Waha is owned by Libya's National Oil Corporation in a joint venture with U.S. firms ConocoPhillips, Marathon and Hess Corp, according to information previously published on its website.

It operates four main oil fields - Waha, Dahra, Samah, and Gialo - the website, which was down on Tuesday, previously said.

The Es-Sider terminal, about 180 km from Sirte on Libya's eastern coast, stores oil pumped from the Sirte Basin containing fields operated by French oil major Total and Italian oil firm Eni.

Abdeljalil Mayouf, an official at rebel oil firm AGOCO, said the tank at Es-Sider had been hit during fighting between rebels and Gaddafi forces within the last few days.

"The tank is still on fire. It was shot maybe three days ago," he said.

An announcement on Sunday that AGOCO would be able to export crude from its Tobruk terminal by the end of September had raised hopes for a quick resumption of Libyan exports.

The National Transitional Council, Libya's de facto government after Gaddafi's forces were expelled from most of the capital Tripoli last week, is struggling to revive the oil- and gas-based economy.

Revenues from the industry will be vital as the council tries to pay salaries, restore basic services and impose



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order across the vast, war-battered country more than six months after the revolt against Gaddafi's four-decade rule began.

A damaged tank at the Brega export terminal was also still spewing flames and black smoke on Monday.  
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/08/30/us-libya-oil-tanks-idUSTRE77T1JZ20110830>

## **USA, N.Y, SCHOHARIE COUNTY**

**SEPTEMBER 1 2011.**

### **IRENE CALLS DEC TO FUEL TANK SPILLS**

#### **FLOODWATERS LIFTED AND TIPPED OVER A 60,000-GALLON TANK AND TWO 20,000-GALLON TANKS**

*Nancy Sanders*

New York state's environmental chief says crews have their hands full cleaning up fuel and other spills following Tropical Storm Irene, including a big one in Schoharie County that sent diesel, gasoline and other fuel spilling from massive tanks. Environmental Conservation Commissioner Joe Martens toured the site Tuesday where floodwaters lifted and tipped over a 60,000-gallon tank and two 20,000-gallon tanks at a storage site in the town of Schoharie, 26 miles west of Albany. Contractors vacuumed up what they could at the rural Ottman and Enders facility. But officials don't know yet how much fuel escaped or how far it spread. Some may have gone into nearby Schoharie Creek. Martens says his agency has responded to 430 spills big and small since midnight Sunday, including at homes where flooding affected tanks.

[http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/new\\_york/irene-calls-dec-to-fuel-tank-spills](http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/new_york/irene-calls-dec-to-fuel-tank-spills)

## **USA, NE, NEWPORT**

**SEPTEMBER 4 2011.**

### **UNDERGROUND DIESEL TANK EXPLODES**

#### **AN UNDERGROUND DIESEL TANK IN NEWPORT, NEBRASKA EXPLODED, DESTROYING PART OF A CONVENIENCE STORE PARKING LOT.**

*Owen Jensen*

Pretty amazing.

That's about the only way to describe what happened at Sunny's convenience store and gas station in Newport, Nebraska.

Around 3 in the morning Friday, an underground diesel tank exploded, blowing apart a section of the concrete parking lot, leaving a gaping hole.

Big chunks of concrete were thrown for several feet.

No one was hurt. In fact, no one was even around when it happened.

But Newport Fire Chief Kurt Micheel lives close by and heard the blast. Describing the crater caused by the explosion, Micheel told 1011 News, "It blew approximately a 20' by 20' hole probably 8 to 10 feet deep."

The explosion happened during a fierce lightning storm. One theory is that a bolt of lightning may have set off the spark that caused the explosion.

"It's just a possibility that the lightning followed a ground wire that would be all tied together and could've possibly ignited the spark in the tank."

The store was not damaged and remains open.

Cleanup crews were called in to soak up some leaking fuel. Apparently the tank was near empty when it exploded. Some nearby tanks may have been damaged as well.

As for the blast, "Oh yes, it shook the windows, rattled the dishes in the cupboards...it was a pretty intense explosion," said Micheel.

[http://www.1011now.com/home/headlines/Underground\\_Diesel\\_Tank\\_Explodes\\_129167023.html](http://www.1011now.com/home/headlines/Underground_Diesel_Tank_Explodes_129167023.html)

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**USA, AZ, TUCSON**

**SEPTEMBER 17 2011.**

**FLOODING CAUSES HAZMAT SITUATION IN SOUTH SIDE**

**JIFFY LUBE WASTE OIL PIT HOLDING THOUSANDS OF GALLONS OF OIL LEAKING.**

*Chris Holmstrom*

Torrential flooding in south Tucson caused a real mess Thursday and people are still cleaning up.

Raindrops hit the South side hard and caused major flooding near 12th Avenue and Valencia.

"This is the worst I've seen it so it's pretty bad I've never been stuck before," said Alisa Alavarez, who lives near the area.

"Usually it rains really hard for a little bit and it'll stop, but it stopped for awhile and all of a sudden there's a river now," said Selena Gomez.

That river flowed from the streets to the nearby businesses. In fact, Jiffy Lube was completely flooded. Water was pouring into the pit that holds thousands of gallons of used and clean oil.

"It also went into the lobby, everywhere, not one dry spot here. The oil is going to be leaking," said Frances Guzman.

And after hours of flooding the pit ending up cresting into the streets and Hazmat crews had to lay hundreds of oil absorbent sheets throughout the area.

"We are just picking up all the oil from the top of the water before it hits the draining system because we don't want to have the draining system contaminated with oil," said Victor Martinez.

Martinez says cleaning oil on the streets in Tucson is new for him, in fact, the last time he helped get oil out of water was during the BP spill in the gulf coast.

"In all my years I've never seen anything like this to have just a little area flooded like that, that's pretty bad."

After laying out hundreds of oil absorbent pads the water finally started to recede, but it left behind debris, muck and rocks. Neighbors are just thankful things are getting back to normal.

<http://www.kold.com/story/15476699/massive-flood-causes-oil-to-leak-into-the-streets>

**USA, LA, BEAUREGARD**

**SEPTEMBER 21 2011.**

**FIRE AT OIL TANK STORAGE SITE IN BEAUREGARD PARISH**

Fire crews worked quickly starting around 6:30am Tuesday to extinguish an oil tank fire at the Midstates Petroleum property on Hwy. 12 at Pierce Rd. west of Ragley.

"There was a flash fire," said Sgt. James Anderson, Public Information Officer for Louisiana State Police.

There was "one open tank burning and three other tanks closed," explained Ragley Fire Chief Tony Deville.

Joe Toler, Beauregard Sheriff's Office, said the flow was shut off to the tanks. Oil inside that tank did catch fire, but Deville said it was extinguished within 10 or 15 minutes.

"We didn't have to evacuate anybody. We got it out quickly enough before any problems with any homes or anything," said Deville.

One person was injured, but was later treated and released on the scene, said Sgt. Anderson.

"We don't feel there is any danger to the public," said Sgt. Anderson.

The Department of Environmental Qualities was also on the scene to monitor clean-up.

<http://www.kplctv.com/story/15503026/oil-tank-fire>

**USA, AZ, TUCSON**

**SEPTEMBER 22 2011.**

**MT. GRAHAM FUEL SPILL CLEANED UP**

A fuel spill on Mt. Graham in the Pinaleno Mountains is being cleaned up and all contaminated material will be removed from the site.

The spill happened just before 11:00pm September 15 at the International Observatory.

A security officer noticed diesel fuel leaking from the Utility Building and pushed the safety shut-off button, which stopped the generator and the fuel feed to it.

The housing unit for the in-line fuel filter for the generator had broken, and as fuel was being pumped from the main tank to a smaller tank that feeds the generator, it leaked through the opening in the damaged filter housing.

The approximately 2,550 gallons of diesel fuel exceeded the capacity of the small tank's spill containment system and spread to the parking area in front of the Utility Building and for roughly 200 feet along Forest Road 669.

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Soils were wet from previous rainfall so absorption was minimal.

Observatory crews implemented a spill contingency plan and worked through the night to contain the spill.

The standing fuel in the Utility Building and immediate parking area was cleaned within eight hours.

Immediately upon receiving the report of the spill the Forest Service implemented our hazardous materials response protocol and is coordinating cleanup efforts in conjunction with the University of Arizona, one of the partners which operates the observatory

Removal of the contaminated soil will continue through the upcoming week.

Southwest Hazard Control from Tucson has been contracted to remove the contaminated soil. Non-contaminated material excavated from construction of the Large Binocular Telescope site will be used to backfill areas from which contaminated soil was removed when inspections by Southwest Hazard Control and Coronado National Forest personnel have been completed.

<http://www.kvoa.com/news/mt-graham-fuel-spill-cleaned-up/>

### **USA, LA, RAGLEY**

**SEPTEMBER 22 2011.**

#### **EXPLOSION IN RAGLEY INJURES ONE PERSON**

Emergency response personnel were called to an explosion at a new oil well site about five miles west of U.S. Highway 171, just south of Louisiana State Highway 12 in Ragley around 6:30 a.m. Wednesday.

According to reports from both the Louisiana State Police and the Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office, one man, who was an employee at the location, was burned, but was treated at the scene and released.

The Beauregard Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness director, Ken Harlow and the Louisiana State Hazardous Materials team responded to the scene, however, there are no indications as to what caused the explosion and fire.

Four tanks containing crude oil were on fire when authorities arrived at the oil well facility operated by Midstates Petroleum.

The Louisiana State Police Emergency Services Unit, Beauregard Parish Fire District #2, Calcasieu Parish Ward 6 Fire Department,

Beauregard Parish Sheriff's Office and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality respond and by 7:45 a.m. the blaze was stabilized and by 8:20 a.m. were extinguished.

Evacuation was not necessary and no other injuries were reported, according to reports.

The Louisiana State Police Emergency Services Unit will conduct an investigation.

<http://www.beauregarddailynews.net/news/x2046634957/Explosion-in-Ragley-injures-one-person>