

General Environmental Incident Summary

Incident: 4013 **Date/Time Notice:** 1/29/2016 11:18 **DEM Incident No:**

Responsible Party: Montana-Dakota Utilities Company

Date Incident: 1/28/2016 **Time Incident:** 11:47 **Duration:**

County: Oliver **Twp:** 142 **Rng:** 84 **Sec:** 14 **Qtr:**

Lat: 47.11908 **Long:** -101.29750 **Method:** Interpolation from map

Location Description: Center Public School
315 N Lincoln Ave
Center, ND

Submitted By: Andy McDonald **Affiliation:**

Address: 400 N Fourth St.

City: Bismarck **State:** ND **Zip:**

Received By:

Contact Person:

400 N Fourth St.
Bismarck, ND

Distance Nearest Occupied Building: 10 Feet **Release Contained:** Yes

Type of Incident: Transformer leak

Description of Released Contaminant: Mineral Oil

Volume Spilled: 2.00 gallons **Ag Related:** No

EPA Extremely Hazardous Substance: No **Reported to NRC:** No

Cause of Incident:

A vehicle backed into a padmount transformer, compromising the seal on the secondary bushings. A small amount of oil leaked onto the pad of the transformer and contaminated 1-3 inches of soil on the west side of the pad.

Risk Evaluation:

None. The spill was of very minimal volume and has been contained and cleaned up. The transformer was located on the north side of the building, near the utility room, where there is no pedestrian traffic.

of Fatalities: 0 **# of Injuries:** 0 **Affected Medium:** 03 - soil

Potential Environmental Impacts:

None expected other than the soil that was removed from the site.

Action Taken or Planned:

There was no standing oil when the crew arrived. A berm with clean dirt was placed around the perimeter to prevent melt water from contacting the oil during clean up. A one foot buffer of soil was removed around the perimeter of the spill. The double wash rinse method was used to clean the concrete that came in contact with oil. The transformer is being replaced. A barricade will be placed in front of the new transformer to prevent this from happening in the future.

Wastes Disposal Location: The transformer, soil, and oil will be disposed of at the appropriate facility pending results of the oil samples.

Agencies Involved:

Updates

Date: 1/29/2016 **Status:** Reviewed - Follow-up Required

Author: Crowdus, Kory

Updated Volume:

Notes:

Report forwarded to the Division of Waste Management.

Date: 2/1/2016 **Status:** Correspondence

Author: Tintes Schiwal, Emily

Updated Volume:

Notes:

A representative from MDU sent me a photo and some basic information regarding the spill and cleanup plans. They will be testing the unit for PCBs. I will be in contact with MDU and update as I get information. Photo is in corresponding folder.

Date: 2/5/2016 **Status:** Reviewed - Assigned to NDDoH Division

Author: Tintes Schiwal, Emily

Updated Volume: 0.25 gallons

Notes:

Test results came back on the unit, and they show it contains 574 parts per million (ppm) polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), which is a regulated amount of PCBs. Because of the small volume of the spill, this incident does not need to be reported immediately to the National Response Center (1 gallon of PCBs) or to EPA (10 gallons of PCBs). MDU had already excavated 4 inches of soil around the concrete pad, and those lab results came back at 0 ppm PCBs. They had also double-washed the concrete to remove residue. After getting the positive test results for PCBs, MDU staff returned and removed down to 10 inches of soil and took composite samples of this soil for testing. They also encapsulated the concrete pad and properly labeled it with a PCB ML label, as required per 40 CFR 761. They plan to return once the ground is thawed to remove the concrete pad, and they will pour a new concrete foundation for the new transformer. All wastes from this process are being sent to US Ecology's hazardous waste landfill in Idaho. Additional photos of the site provided by MDU are in the corresponding folder. A site inspection will be conducted by NDDoH staff.

Date: 8/31/2016 **Status:** Inspection

Author: Tintes Schiwal, Emily

Updated Volume:

Notes:

I drove to the school in Center today to conduct a visual inspection of the spill site. MDU planned a scheduled outage of the school at the end of July so they could remove the concrete pad that had been encapsulated and do more sampling. They took 19 soil samples from the area around and underneath the concrete pad after removal. Those soil samples all came back with results of 0 parts per million. They then put in clean soil, a new concrete pad, and a new transformer. When I came to do a visual inspection, it was apparent how much soil was removed because the backfilled new soil was caving in around the base of the new unit. MDU plans to bring in more soil to fix this. No visible oil staining was apparent during this inspection. The photos I took are in the corresponding incident folder.

Date: 9/30/2016 **Status:** No Further Action Requested

Author: Tintes Schiwal, Emily

Updated Volume:

Notes:

MDU submitted a report to the NDDoH detailing this event with a timeline, laboratory results, photos, and a narrative. This will be passed along to EPA Region 8 in Denver. This report can be found in the corresponding folder. No further action appears to be needed at this time.