

February 5, 2002
NPD3NRE:0163

Mr. Edward Litwon
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Southwest Region
400 Waterfront Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745

Weston Transport, Inc. Oil Spill at Beaver Valley Power Station

Dear Mr. Litwon:

The following is provided as a written report subsequent to my verbal notification to the Department (PA DEP) on January 30, 2002. The incident, an oil spill from the property of Beaver Valley Power Station (BVPS), was reported to the PA DEP by telephone at approximately 11:24 a.m. on January 30, 2002.

On or about 10:35 a.m. on January 30, 2002, a Weston Transport, Inc. tractor-trailer was making a delivery of plastic material on our property. The material drop-off point was in our main employee parking lot that has a blacktop surface. As the truck was backing up, with an attendant on the driver's side of the vehicle, the truck knocked over a yellow steel stanchion, on the passenger side, that was in place to keep traffic away from previously delivered plastic material. The stanchion's steel base was flipped up and cut through the passenger side fuel tank releasing approximately 100 gallons of diesel fuel to the parking lot surface. The fuel flowed into two storm drains that discharge into Peggs Run via BV Outfall #013 (NPDES Permit No. PA0025615). Peggs Run then drains into the Ohio River (please see attached drawing).

The work crew used some materials on-hand to minimize the flow to the drains, and to begin cleaning up the area. The crew also made the proper calls to the BV Control Room to initiate the actions described in the BV Preparedness, Prevention and Contingency Plan (PPC), and the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan (SPCC). The immediate action by the Control Room was to initiate onsite assistance and notification, determine reportability requirements, and determine if offsite assistance was warranted.


BV Environmental responded to Peggs Run, smelled diesel fuel odor and observed an oil sheen on the surface. Action taken at that time was to lay oil absorbent booms across the entire width of Peggs Run, and to notify the Control Room that the incident was reportable. In accordance with site procedures described in the PPC, notifications were made to the PA DEP regional offices in Pittsburgh and Beaver Falls, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, National Response Center (assigned Case No. 592595), and Beaver County Emergency Management Agency. Downstream-user notifications included calls to the Midland Water Authority, East Liverpool Water Company, and J&L Specialty Products Company.

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Offsite support was requested and received from Weavertown Environmental Group, and the Three Rivers Pollution Response Council (3RPRC). The responding members came from the FirstEnergy Bruce Mansfield Plant, and the Ashland Oil Company Great Lakes Terminal. Booms were applied at the mouth of Peggs Run, on the Ohio River approximately 300 yards downstream from Peggs Run, and from the BV shoreline to Phyllis Island in order to protect the back channel. PA DEP Water Quality Specialist Jeffery J. Jones from the Beaver Falls Field Office, visited our site and observed some of the actions being taken.

The cause of the spill was in the general class of inattention to detail. However, in accordance with our Corrective Action and Human Performance Improvement Programs, BVPS Condition Report No. 02-00782 was written. Through the Condition Report process, the incident will be investigated, and recommendations to prevent recurrence may be implemented. Any actions taken to prevent or provide mitigation will be incorporated into the BVPS procedures, and the PPC and SPCC as appropriate per oil spill pollution prevention regulations, and the PA DEP document, Guidelines for the Development and Implementation of Emergency Response Plans.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to call me at 724-682-5874.



Michael D. Banko III
Lead Nuclear Technologist

Attachment

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cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555
Re: DPR-66 and NPF-73

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WESTON TRANSPORT, INC. OIL SPILL AT BEAVER VALLEY POWER STATION

Event Date: 01/30/2002

