

6/28/24

Mr. McBeth
IDEM Emergency Response Section

Subject: IDEM Incident from 2023 Whiteland IN

Dear Mr. McBeth:

This information is provided in response to a verbal request received by Duke Energy Indiana regarding the oil spill That occurred in Whiteland, IN in March of 2023 due to a tornado.

Where did the spill occur?

5789 N Graham Rd Whiteland IN 46184

Description of substance spilled:

Transformer oil from a new three-phase padmount 1500 KVA transformer labeled with non pcb oil description on nameplate from manufacturer.

Time, date, and duration of spill. If unknown, include when spill was discovered:

The spill occurred on 3/31/23 at approximately 4:00pm.

Time and date when responsible party-initiated spill response activities:

Spill response was initiated some weeks later due to the transformer being under the walls of the warehouse. When the warehouse building debris was cleaned up the transformer was found. The cleanup activities were initiated 6/21/23, the day after we were notified.

Describe measures taken to perform a spill response. Include dates:

Duke Energy Environmental contacted JDH about the oil spill at 5789 N Graham Rd in Whiteland IN. on 6/20/23 for spill response. They arrived the next day around 9:30am and began cleanup. The padmount transformer was dented with all conductors pulled out of the transformer. The transformer was pumped out which held 324 gallons and it was determined we lost 282 gallons of oil from the padmount transformer due to the bushing being broken and conductors pulled out. JDH recovered 42 gallons from the transformer. Approximately 240 gallons was spilled to soil and blown away by the tornado.

Cleanup was determined to be in the soil and gravel around where the transformer was found. 8 yards of contaminated soil and gravel were removed from the site. Cleanup was completed that day. No other oil was found at the site.

Response organizations who responded to the spill:

JDH Contracting

Extent of spill, area of soil, and/or length of impacted surface water:

An area of approximately 3 feet wide around the padmount transformer approximately 20 inches deep. No waterways were impacted.

A picture of the transformer and area is attached with this email. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 317 289-2267

Sincerely,

Brian Gardner
Lead EHS Professional
EHS Field Support, Midwest