

Summary of Notification of Incident - pursuant to Section 14 of the Waste Management and Pollution Control Act

Written Notification Date: 28/06/06¹

24,500 litres of diesel spilt to ground from triple road train roll-over Roper Hwy, between Mataranka and Ngukurr

THE IDENTITY OF THE PERSON NOTIFYING OF THE INCIDENT –

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NOTIFICATION OF THE INCIDENT –

Verbal notification was initially provided by Marta Szeto to the 24-hr Pollution Hotline at approximately 7:15 pm, Tuesday 27 June. The Initial written Section 14 notification was e-mailed to Rob Eacott on 28 June 2006, and an amended notification (as per this summary) was provided 30 June 2006.

THE DATE AND TIME OF THE INCIDENT –

Approximately 4:15 pm on Tuesday, 27 June 2006

THE INCIDENT CAUSING OR THREATENING TO CAUSE POLLUTION –

The incident involved a Bulktrans triple road train comprising a flat top trailer loaded with cross tanks (holding AFD diesel) and 2 tanker barrels (of BP diesel). The two tanker barrels carrying BP diesel have rolled down the road embankment into a table drain.

THE PLACE WHERE THE INCIDENT OCCURRED –

On the Roper Highway between Mataranka and Ngukurr, approximately 10 km east of the Flying Fox Station turn off, on the Ngukurr side of the highway.

HOW THE POLLUTION OCCURRED, IS OCCURRING OR MAY OCCUR –

Initial reports² indicated that diesel was leaking from five damaged hatches at the time of the incident.

It has now been confirmed that damage was sustained to the tanker barrels during the roll-over on the rocky ground, and approximately 24,500 litres of diesel was lost. The incident area comprised 70 m by 30 m. It is understood that the majority of diesel was lost in the

¹ Revised 30/06/06.

² Initial information was available to BP on Tuesday evening, approximately 7 pm.

table drain where the tanker barrels came to rest; and hence the majority of soil impact is understood to be in the vicinity of the tanker barrels. Note that the table drain was dry, and the spill was contained within the table drain – there was no impact to surface waters.

THE ATTEMPTS MADE TO PREVENT, REDUCE, CONTROL, RECTIFY OR CLEAN UP THE POLLUTION OR RESULTANT ENVIRONMENTAL HARM CAUSED OR THREATENING TO BE CAUSED BY THE INCIDENT –

Local emergency services including police from Ngukurr and the fire department from Katherine were notified and attended the incident at approximately 6 pm and 9:30 pm respectively. Bulktrans dispatched a double barrel tanker, an Emergency Response Team and an Emergency Response Spill Trailer from Darwin, which arrived at the incident site at approximately 1 am Wednesday 28th.

Following the incident, the driver used the onboard spill kit to stem the flow of diesel occurring from the five damaged hatches; however the damage to the tankers was too great.

The Bulktrans Emergency Response Team utilised equipment from the Spill Trailer including absorbent materials to recover spilt diesel in the table drain, and between 1 am and 6 am, they undertook pump out of approximately 57,500 litres of diesel remaining in the damaged tanker barrels into the response tanker. Without this emergency response intervention, it is likely that the majority of the 57,500 litres would have also been lost to ground.

Recovery of the damaged tanker barrels from the table drain commenced on Wednesday (28th) morning.

The BP Remediation Management Team, in conjunction with Bulktrans, will undertake the following actions:

- The extent of soil impact will be confirm laterally and vertically;
- The soil impact will be characterised by the collection and analysis of soil samples;
- Information will be sought on depth to groundwater, and (if present) identification of groundwater wells/bores, and/or other sensitive ecological receptors ; and
- A photographic record of the soil impact will be undertaken.

The results of the above will assist in determining the best course of remedial actions required to address the environmental risks posed by the soil impact. Bulktrans and BP, in conjunction with the Environment Protection Agency (EPA), are investigating the various options available to remediate and dispose of the impacted soil.