



DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182

denr.sd.gov

May 11, 2018

Dan Benson
NorthWestern Energy
313 Cedar Street
Yankton, SD 57078

Subject: Department of Environment and Natural Resources File Number 2018.070
Pertaining to the PCB transformer oil spill at 24442 404th Ave near
Letcher, SD


Dear Mr. Benson:

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is contacting you regarding the above referenced event. This office has recorded the information provided about this event on an initial spill report form (enclosed for your review). The procedures for assessment and remediation of a release such as this were developed to prevent pollution of the waters of the State. In this situation, the following steps must be taken:

- Excavate the contaminated materials. All contaminated materials must be characterized and properly disposed.
- Obtain representative soil samples to ensure adequate cleanup. The samples should be analyzed for PCBs and petroleum. Once sample results are available and provided to DENR, we will determine if further cleanup is necessary.
- Please provide a written narrative detailing the actions taken in response to this event, to include the final disposition of recovered material, disposal receipts, and post cleanup pictures.
- By June 11, 2018, please complete and return the attached Written Contamination Incident Follow Up Report form (this is a standard form so some questions will not apply to this situation, just skip those questions). Electronic options for completing the form can be found at <https://www.state.sd.us/eforms/secure/eforms/E0486V4-SpillsFollowUpReport.pdf>

Kelsey Newling has been assigned as the project manager of this case. Once Kelsey has reviewed all of the information on this case she will contact you to discuss any further actions that may be needed. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Kelsey Newling or me at 605.773.3296. Please note that releases of PCB's may also be regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency – Toxic Substance Control Act. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in protecting the quality of South Dakota's natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim McIntosh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and "M".

Kim McIntosh
Administrator
Ground Water Quality Program

cc: Jeff Bathke, Davison County Emergency Management, Mitchell, SD
Steve Kropp, SD DENR Waste Management Program, Pierre, SD

Environmental Events Database - Initial Report Form

Dept. of Ag. Case No.

 DENR Case No.: 2018.070

Reported: (mm/dd/yy) <u>5-9-18</u>		Time: <u>9 AM</u>		Recorded By: <u>Newling</u>	
A. REPORTER	Reported By: <u>Dan Benson</u>				
	Organization Name: <u>Northwestern Energy</u>				
	Organization: <u>discharger</u> public state local federal				
	Address:				
	City:		County:		State:
Zip:		Phone:			
B. DISCHARGER <small>(responsible Party)</small>	Name: <u>Northwestern Energy - Dan Benson</u>				
	Address: <u>313 Cedar Street</u>				
	City: <u>Yankton</u>		County: <u>Yankton</u>		State: <u>SD</u>
	Zip: <u>57078</u>		Phone:		
C. INCIDENT LOCATION	As Above in B Street or Approx. Location				
	<u>24442 404th AVE</u>				
	Survey Description: Sec T R				
	City: <u>Letcher</u>		County: <u>Sanborn</u>		State: <u>SD</u>
D. DATE	Spill Date: (mm/dd/yy) <u>5-5-18</u>			Spill Time:	
	Material Type (Code/Name):		hazardous substance	material unknown	Quantity Spilled
E. MATERIAL			<u>oil</u> other		Spilled in Water
	<u>PCB Transformer Oil</u>			<u>22</u>	
		lb.	bbl.	<u>gal.</u>	oth.
		lb.	bbl.	gal.	oth.
		lb.	bbl.	gal.	oth.
F. SOURCE	Source of Spill: AST UST railway vessel fixed facility pipeline highway air transport				
	Description: <u>Transformer</u>				
G. MED.	Medium Affected: air <u>land</u> water groundwater within facility only				
	Waterway Affected:				
H. CAUSE	Reported Cause: transportation accident operational error dumping Other				
	equipment failure natural phenomenon unknown				
Description: <u>Storm event</u>					
I. DAMAGE	Damages: No. of injuries		No. of deaths		Property damage > \$50,000
	Evacuation Response Action Taken				
K. NOTIFIED	Responding Agency: DENR DOA discharger federal EPA local				
	Agencies Notified:				
L. COMMENTS	Comments: <u>100 ppm PCB. Gravel all cleaned up. Will backfill.</u>				