



STATE OF OREGON

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: **Governor**

FROM: Gerry Thompson *Gerry*

SUBJECT: Emergencies

DATE: March 20, 1984

APR 16 1984
Governor Atiyeh

Bob Oliver was notified by our Emergency Management at 2:00 a.m. Monday, 3/19 of a Mobile Oil tanker aground in the Columbia. Tanker went aground between 1 and 1:30 a.m. at river mile 88 -- Sauvies Island (Coffin Rock on Oregon side and Carroll's channel on Washington side). Two of the six tanks were punctured. Ship was carrying 30,000 barrels of #6 Industrial heating oil. 40,000 were gallons were released.

Coast Guard immediately took charge and all of state's emergency teams were on site. By 7:00 a.m. Coast Guard felt the spill was shut down and Mobile Oil had accepted full responsibility for the accident. Environmental Emergency Services (Reidel) has been hired for clean-up.

By 9:00 a.m. all containment booms were in place.

We spent the morning anxiously awaiting the oil to move down river past Trojan. We had DOE on site at Trojan and the plant was preparing for a key decision of shut down. Cooling water intakes could possibly become clogged from the floating oil, however, we also were told that the oil was put in the tanker at 140 degrees. Upon entering the water, it would cool to 60 degrees and probably sink.

Also, Trojan has a 5 million gallon water reserve for cooling which would carry the plant, if need be, 36 to 48 to maybe 72 hours. It appeared Trojan was not in jeopardy but we carefully and quietly prepared for the worst. (I even had the emergency operations center prepared so that there would be no delay in activation plus we noted the whereabouts of all key individuals.)

By 5:00 p.m. the oil had passed Trojan and it looked as if we were okay. Vigil will be kept though.

So far no attempts will be made to move the tanker and no one yet knows why it went aground.

I coordinated closely with Steve Excel, Governor Spellman's executive assistant. Spellman was also out of the state. There was particular concern for Washington because the currents were taking the oil to the Washington banks.

- more -

Contains
Recycled
Materials

Governor
March 20, 1984
Page 2

Update: 3/20 8:30 a.m.

The oil is lighter than initially thought, so there will be less wildlife damage than projected.

The oil is drifting to the Washington side and cleanup has started.

GT:ds