



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Response Expectations to Petroleum Releases

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MDEQ in Action: Emergency Response



MDEQ's Emergency Response:

- 24-Hour Emergency Response
 - Public Health and Environment Threats
- (5) 24-HR responders
 - 1 North: 3 Central:1 South
- Emergency Response Branch
 - Day to Day Emergencies
- Coordinates the Agency's response to man-made and natural disasters
- Interagency Coordination
 - Coordination with State and Federal Counterparts



MDEQ IN ACTION: Emergency Response

Types of Emergency Responses

- Highway Responses
- Industry Responses
- Maritime Responses
- Train Derailments
- Fish Kill Responses
- Dam Failures



TYPES OF PETROLEUM RELEASES

- Barges
- Railcars
- Pipelines
- Oil Production Facilities
- Air transportation incidents
- Gasoline/Diesel/Oil Tankers
- AST's and UST's
- Saddle Tanks
- Sunken Vessels



Objectives when Responding to a Release

- Ensure safety
- Control the source of the release
- Manage a coordinated response effort
- Protect environmentally sensitive areas
- Contain and recover released material
- Remove substance from impacted areas
- Minimize economic impacts
- Keep stakeholders and public informed of response activities



Emergency Response and Enforcement

- What type of violations occur in ER?
- What triggers an enforcement action and/or penalties?
 - MS Code 49-17-43 (7)
 - Willfulness of the violation
 - Cost of restoration
 - Harm to public or environment
 - Damage to natural resources
 - Economic benefit
 - Past history
 - How the noncompliance was reported
- What can you do to prevent violations and limit penalties?
- Criminal Investigations



Emergency Response and Air Monitoring



- Why is air monitoring necessary?
- When would air monitoring be requested during a hazardous materials release?
- What will the data be used to determine?
- Who decides and who can conduct air monitoring?









Things to Take Away

- Call to report any releases
- Have a plan
- Exercise the plan
- Take necessary precautions to protect human health and the environment





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For assistance call the State Warning
Point at MEMA:
1.800.222.MEMA (6362)