

INCIDENT DATE: October 15, 2019
INCIDENT TIME: 1348 hrs
FACILITY: Shore Terminals LLC
90 San Pablo Avenue
Crockett, CA 94525

PERSON TO CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Stephan Rosen (510-787-1076)

I. SUMMARY OF EVENT

Two ethanol storage tanks (Tanks 20107 and 20109) caught fire; the first tank (Tk 20107) caught fire at approximately 1348 hrs and the second tank (Tk 20109) caught fire shortly thereafter. The cause is currently unknown and under investigation. Prior to the event both tanks were static and contained less than 3,000 barrels of denatured ethanol each. With the exception of routine inspection and monitoring activities by facility personnel and contractors, there was no activity in the tank farm at the time of the fire.

The terminal was evacuated within approximately 2 minutes with one exception; a contractor working in the back of the terminal (near to Tks 20110 and 20111) who did not have an immediate means of safe egress. He safely exited the area of the incident in less than 20 minutes.

Emergency response vehicles were onsite within minutes and began response by directing water and fire fighting foam to mitigate the fire and cool adjacent tanks.

A grass fire began on the hillside adjacent to the terminal and was extinguished with the assistance of both fixed and rotary wing aircraft laying down fire suppressant and water.

The tank fire was abated by approximately 2100 hrs on October 15, 2019.

Shore Terminals LLC directed the initiation of third party air monitoring once access to the area was safe, and no LEL measurements have been detected downwind of the affected tank block; this air monitoring is ongoing.

II. AGENCIES NOTIFIED, INCLUDING TIME OF NOTIFICATION

- 1420 hrs—NRC – Miss Rawls; Rpt #126129 (800-899-4672)
- 1436 hrs—Contra Costa County Hazmat – Trisha Asuncion (925-250-6569 [mobile phone]; first spoke on land line [925-335-3232])
- 1443 hrs—USCG – Ryan Morgan (415-399-3547)
- 1451 hrs—PHMSA – Brian Pierzina (816-589-8293)
- 1456 hrs—USCG – Lt. Commander Bonnie Shaner (Incident Management Division Chief, Sector SF 415-595-8350)
- 1507 hrs—BAAQMD – Bhagavan Krishnaswamy (415-749-4637)
- 1510 hrs—State OES – Dustin Branscomb; Ctrl #19-6635 (800-852-7550)
- 1516 hrs—EPA - Steve Canalog (Duty Officer 415-595-8350)

- 1544 hrs—Fed DHS – Jerry Stevens (866-615-5150)
- 1621 hrs—State Fire Marshall – Dan Lee (818-618-1339)
- 1511 hrs—CWS shelter in place initiated
- 1938 hrs—CWS shelter in place lifted

III. AGENCIES RESPONDING

- Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- Berkeley Fire Department
- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives
- Cal OSHA
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California Highway Patrol
- California State Lands Commission
- Chevron Fire Department
- Contra Costa County Fire Protection District
- Contra Costa County Office of the District Attorney
- Contra Costa County Sherriff Department
- Contra Costa Health Services
- Corteva Fire Department
- Crockett Fire Department
- East Bay Regional Park District
- Marathon Fire Department
- Office of State Fire Marshall
- National Response Center
- Phillips 66 Fire Department
- Rodeo Hercules Fire Department
- Shell Oil Fire Department
- United States Coast Guard

IV. EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIONS

- Mutual Aid: PMAO notified/mobilized (Chevron, Marathon, Phillips 66, Shell & Corteva) responded
- Berkeley Fire Department responded
- Contra Costa County Fire Protection District responded
- Crockett Fire Department responded
- Rodeo Hercules Fire Department responded

V. IDENTITY OF MATERIAL RELEASED AND ESTIMATED OR KNOWN QUANTITIES:

The investigation is continuing, however based on currently available information it appears that less than 6,000 barrels of denatured ethanol, plus an unknow quantity of other potential fuels (diesel & jet) released through broken lines until lines isolated by closing valves. SDS of denatured ethanol attached.

VI. METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AT THE TIME OF EVENT

Winds were light at the time, generally between 4 and 6 mph, from the north and northwest; skies were clear, and temperatures ranging from a high of approximately 71 degrees and dropping into the low 50 degree mark later in the evening.

VII. DESCRIPTION OF INJURIES

There were no employee or contractor injuries. One fire fighter sustained a minor burn injury (first aid only) to one cheek but remained onsite to continue firefighting duties.

VIII. COMMUNITY IMPACT

A small grass fire was started as discussed above in an area adjacent to the terminal; no structures were damaged, just vegetation.

A shelter in place was issued to the areas of Rodeo and Crockett at 1511 until 1938 hrs for a period of approximately 7.5 hours.

Both directions of I-80 were closed from Highway 4 in Hercules to Interstate 780 in Vallejo until approximately 2100 hours on the day of the incident.

The results of air monitoring are not yet available, however, monitoring onsite for LEL conditions indicated that none were seen.

IX. INCIDENT INVESTIGATION RESULTS

The investigation is ongoing and is early in the process. NuStar is currently prioritizing cooperation with the incident response team from Contra Costa Fire. NuStar does not have access to the incident location due to a hold by CalOSHA and control of the facility by Contra Costa Fire during its investigation.

X. SUMMARIZE INVESTIGATION RESULTS BELOW OR ATTACH COPY OF REPORT:

Pending.

XI. SUMMARIZE PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO BE TAKEN TO PREVENT RECURRENCE INCLUDING MILESTONE AND COMPLETION DATES FOR IMPLEMENTATION:

Pending.