

## Wickham, Jerry, Env. Health

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**From:** Doug Debs [dougdebs2472@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 28, 2014 9:40 AM  
**To:** Khatri, Paresh, Env. Health  
**Cc:** Wickham, Jerry, Env. Health; Roe, Dilan, Env. Health; Hugo, Susan, Env. Health  
**Subject:** Re: Niles Canyon Railway Site

Hello Paresh:

Thank you very much! I will install the oil-sorbent pads before passengers arrive Sunday morning.

Yesterday I left a voicemail for Jerry Wickham. His voicemail said that was out of the office and would return Monday.

Best regards,  
Doug Debs  
Hazmat Mgr. / Pacific Locomotive Association DBA Niles Canyon Railway  
cell 650-704-1487

On Friday, June 27, 2014 4:21 PM, "Khatri, Paresh, Env. Health" <paresh.khatri@acgov.org> wrote:

Hello Doug,

You may apply oil absorbent pads to mitigate oil spreading and minimize potential slipping, as requested. Please accumulate all used absorbent pads in a properly labeled hazardous waste container and dispose appropriately. Also please document the activity, including photographs.

Sincerely,

Paresh C Khatri  
Sr. Hazardous Materials Specialist  
Alameda County Department of Environmental Health  
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway  
Alameda, CA 94502-6577

Ph: 510-777-2478  
Fax: 510 -337-9335

<http://www.acgov.org/aceh/index.htm>

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**From:** Doug Debs [mailto:dougdebs2472@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 26, 2014 5:57 PM  
**To:** Khatri, Paresh, Env. Health

**Cc:** Wickham, Jerry, Env. Health; Roe, Dilan, Env. Health; Hugo, Susan, Env. Health

**Subject:** Re: Niles Canyon Railway Site

Hello Paresh:

Thank you for your advice today.

The oil that leaked onto the track is CPS 23380 Chevron Journal Bearing Oil. It is used to lubricate railroad axle journals (bearings). The MSDS is attached as a PDF. MSDS section VI "Health Hazard Data" notes that it is "not expected to be harmful if swallowed". We estimate that the spill is <5 gallons, possibly <2 gallons total. But in any case it must be cleaned up properly.

We plan to remediate the area as follows:

1. Document spill area with photos. (Inspector Dale Klettke has already done this for ACDEH; I will take photos for narrative purposes.)
2. Remove surface oil with oil-sorbent pads.
3. Remove oil-soaked ballast (rocks and dirt) around affected railroad ties. Dig out with shovels and/or power equipment, if necessary.
4. Put oil-soaked rocks & dirt in 55-gallon open-top steel drum. Label as "Solid Oily Waste" hazardous waste. Seal drum. (Our hazwaste transportation & disposal contractor is Safety-Kleen.)
5. Document again with photos.
6. Backfill holes with clean ballast (crushed rock, ~2" average size).
7. Tamp ballast down against ties for good track support.
8. Final photo documentation.

I would like to do steps 1 and 2 as soon as possible, to minimize the chances of the oil spreading or a visitor slipping. Is it OK to apply oil-sorbent pads to the affected area on Saturday morning June 28?

Best regards,

Doug Debs

Hazmat Mgr / Pacific Locomotive Association DBA Niles Canyon Railway

cell 650-704-1487

e-mail: [dougdebs2472@yahoo.com](mailto:dougdebs2472@yahoo.com)

On Thursday, June 26, 2014 5:26 PM, "Khatri, Paresh, Env. Health" <[paresh.khatri@acgov.org](mailto:paresh.khatri@acgov.org)> wrote:

Hello Doug,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me this morning regarding the oil releases that occurred at the Niles Canyon Railway. As mentioned during our telephone conversation, the Office of Emergency Services must be notified of the release(s) that have occurred (please see attached handout for contact information).

Additionally, prior to conducting any remediation, a work plan describing the proposed cleanup must be submitted to Alameda County for review. As discussed this morning, a deposit/refund account must be established as Alameda County charges a fee to oversee the cleanup of the site.

The cleanup will be overseen by Alameda County's LOP/SLIC group, which typically oversees these types of cleanups. At this time, the case is in the process of being assigned to a case manager. In the interim, you may contact Jerry Wickham (510-567-6791) should you have any questions regarding this case.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns regarding this e-mail.

Sincerely,

Paresh C Khatri  
Sr. Hazardous Materials Specialist  
Alameda County Department of Environmental Health  
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway  
Alameda, CA 94502-6577

Ph: 510-777-2478  
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