

1438
TA-54
May 14, 1982

Calweld drilling operations at TA.54-L. Started to drill in the morning a 4 ft. dia. shaft. At about 20 ft. in depth there was a strong odor of what seemed to smell like a solvent. The dirt was damp coming from the shaft being drilled. Stopped drilling on the shaft and went to TA.54-G to get some information from H-Division people. A lady came out in the afternoon. She said that it smelled like perfume to her. No soil sample was taken, so don't know what the odor and smell was. Was instructed by H-Division person to stop drilling, pull off the shaft and backfill it. The above shaft was next to an old shaft that had been used for burial in years past. They could'nt say ~~at the time~~ what was buried in the old shaft. The old shaft is capped with concrete.

May 24, 1982

Started to drill another 4 ft. dia. shaft. At about 10 ft. started to smell something like solvent again. This shaft was moved away from the shaft that was instructed to be backfilled. H-Division person was present and stated there was a small amount of odor smelled.

May 25, 1982

Kept on drilling the pilot hole to 66 ft. and reamed 8 ft. dia. hole to about 35 ft. and was still smelling an odor. At about 4:20 B.M. Zia Safety was called. They said they would be down to job site in the morning. Zia Safety said drilling could be stopped if we didn't feel comfortable about the situation.

May 26, 1982

Kept operating drilling rig. Zia Safety and H-Division people arrived at about 9:30 or 10:00 A.M.. Some kind of instrument or machine was lowered into the shaft. No reading could be picked up, but did pickup a count of 50-75 P.P.M. in the dirt that was brought out of the hole. This dirt was also damp. H-Division said no health problems. They said there were hydrocarbons present in the dirt but didn't know what kind. A soil sample was taken but never was told whether there was any kind of contamination in the dirt. Finished shaft about 3:30 P.M. and moved rig off the shaft.

May 27, 1982

Set up drilling rig on the next shaft. Started drilling operation. Dirt coming from shaft was also moist, small odor present but was never checked by H-Div. people.

May 28, 1982

Finished drilling the shaft at about 3:30 in the afternoon, and moved rig out of the area.



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