

**From:** [Thomas Orobona \(MP\)](#)  
**To:** [Paddock, Jeffrey J - DNR](#)  
**Subject:** WI SPILL #19709 ID 20231002NO16-1 Report  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 15, 2023 8:52:32 AM  
**Attachments:** [2023-10-02 StinsonSpillReportPhotos.pdf](#)  
[Spill Site Location.pdf](#)

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Good Morning Jeff,

Please see the attached spill site location and spill response photos for the non-PCB mineral oil spill at Stinson substation in Superior, Wisconsin.

At 9:04am on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, Thomas Orobona (Environmental Compliance Specialist 1) was notified by Joshua Worcester (Superintendent, Construction Project Execution) that the 10TR transformer at Stinson substation had been leaking non-PCB mineral oil for approximately one week. At the time of discovery, the transformer had assumedly leaked 30 gallons of oil to the concrete containment pad and surrounding gravel.

Substation technicians, Joshua Klemmer and Mike Miner, began containment and cleanup at 9:00am on 10/2/2023, placing absorbent pads, booms, and floor dry to contain the spilled oil (*figure 1 & 2*). The transformer and concrete pad were sprayed with solvent and wiped down to remove any remaining oil.

Cleanup of the transformer and concrete pad concluded on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (*figure 4 & 5*). Oil impacted waste was placed in 55-gallon drums and transported to Minnesota Power's Herbert Service Center (HSC) for disposal. Some transformer oil was drained into a 275-gallon IBC and brought to HSC for disposal. A sample of the oil was analyzed by Minnesota Valley Testing Labs and was determined non-PCB (*figure 3*).

Between October 13<sup>th</sup> and November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Northern Interstate Construction, a sub-contractor of Hooper, completed excavation and regrading of the Stinson substation. This excavation included the oil impacted region around the 10TR transformer. Work was concluded by November 13<sup>th</sup> and photos were taken of the re-graded region around the affected transformer (*fig 6 & 7*).

The incident was reported to the Wisconsin spill hotline at 10:14am on October 2, 2023

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

**Thomas Orobona**

Environmental Compliance Specialist 1

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