# MINUTES OF THE MEETING NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE MONTANA STATE SENATE

April 8, 1987

Meeting of the Senate Natural Resources Committee was called to order by Chairman Thomas Keating on April 8, 1987, at 1:00 p.m., in Room 405 of the State Capitol.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with the exception of Senator John Anderson who was excused.

CONSIDERATION OF HJR 44: In the absence of Representative Pavlovich, sponsor of the bill, Senator Lynch introduced HJR 44 as a bill that would request an interim study of the problems associated with hazardous material incidents. Lynch explained that there had been a meeting in Anaconda last December and the Civil Defense Coordinator from Butte brought out some problems that the participants were not ready to handle concerning transporting of hazardous materials across the State. The coordinator had asked the question at that meeting, inquiring how a community responds when there is a wreck that causes a hazardous spill on an interstate highway. Firemen and others have not had the training to know exactly what to do. There was not enough information known about hazardous material accidents to draft and submit a bill; therefore, HJR 44 was written.

PROPONENTS: Representative Dave Brown, House District 72, supported HJR 44.

Wilma Puich, Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator of Butte/Silver Bow spoke in favor of HJR 44. Ms. Puich stated that hazardous incidents are becoming more common and she questioned whether local government or even State government are prepared to handle such an incident. The probability of incidents occurring had been studied in all 56 Montana counties in 1984. Every county in the State ranked the transportation of hazardous materials or fixed site facilities as one of the top five hazards facing their respective communities. Although a possible life-threatening situation faces every county in the State, to date, no State agency has been designated the responsibility of all four phases of emergency management -- mitigation, planning, response, and recovery. No State agency has control over the decision-making process during an emergency, and no State agency affords local communities a comprehensive training program for first response units or the general pub-Ms. Puich described how any individual could come upon such an accident spilling an unknown substance.

Ms. Puich said that the expenses of equipping a response vehicle are phenomenal. Also, there would be liability issues between counties. Ms. Puich reported that there are over 10,000 chemicals today, and she said that HJR 44 should be passed so that pertinent questions can be answered, suggestions made for training the public, and even funding be recommended for equipping the counties. (Exhibit 1)

Henry E. Lohr, Montana State Volunteer Fire Fighters, showed hazardous materials placards denoting explosives, fertilizers, flammable solids, oxygen, gasoline, etc. Each placard was designated a number. The public needs education and information for safety purposes, and Mr. Lohr asked the committee to support HJR 44.

Ken Black, Montana Fire Chiefs, reported that there are 400 different fire departments in Montana, and they "thoroughly support this bill." He said that the chiefs are asking that someone be determined responsible by the study. Mr. Black reported that Bozeman's Fire Department is putting a hazardous response vehicle together. He stated that each suit costs \$12,000 each, and training costs more than a small fire department can handle. Mr. Black maintained that Montana is facing a very dangerous problem. Hazardous materials spills do not just happen in big metropolitan cities, and Mr. Black said it is very important that Montana do something about the situation as soon as possible.

Tom Harris, Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, testified that present training is inadequate; and HB 44 will improve public education and awareness.

Russ Brown, Yellowstone Citizens Council, supported HJR 44.

Elmer Peterson, President of the County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinators, submitted a letter written by R. Ben Bifoss, Anaconda-Deer Lodge County City Manager. (Exhibit 2) Mr. Peterson testified that the county disaster coordinators are not properly trained nor do they have the correct equipment to respond to an emergency situation. Mr. Peterson urged the committee to support HJR 44.

Judy Doggett, Broadwater County Commissioner, testified that a disaster did in fact happen in Broadwater County on September 10, 1985, which concerned a truck carrying sulphuric acid. Ms. Doggett submitted a detailed report of the incident. (Exhibit 3)

Paul Spangler, Lewis and Clark Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator, showed the committee a poster proclaiming April as Disaster Preparedness Month. Spangler said that 2% of all Burlington Northern tanker cars contain hazardous materials and 27% of the trucks over the highways carry hazardous materials, many of which are not identified or placarded. The problem with hazardous materials is that they are so prolific (30,000 chemicals) that each may require slightly different response. Spangler told the committee of the four thousand gallons anhydrous ammonia spilled in Dry Creek drainage south of Helena that had occurred on the evening of April 14. Fortunately, the spill was a practice drill. Volunteer fire departments sponsored the training drill. Two hundred gallons of the ammonia had escaped into the atmosphere. Had the entire truck ruptured in a real accident, it was very likely (given the winds) that the Capitol would have been evacuated. The type of response that is necessary for such an occurrence is listed below. However, Mr. Spangler asked the committee to keep in mind it was merely a drill.

#### List of Agencies Who Responded

County Fire Department
Sheriff's Office
Helena Police Department
Montana Highway Patrol
Montana Health Department
Montana Disaster Emergency Services
County Disaster Emergency Services
County Commission
Jefferson County Fire Department, Montana City

The above points out the vast types of response that are required for a disaster emergency. Mr. Spangler asked the committee to please vote for HJR 44 because it is desperately needed in Montana.

OPPONENTS: There were no opponents present.

QUESTIONS (AND/OR DISCUSSION BY THE COMMITTEE): Senator Keating wondered why Larry Lloyd from the Department of Health was not present.

Senator Walker commented that Butal suits cost \$3,000 each and there were eight different suits needed in the Great Falls Fire Department to handle different situations. Sen. Walker said that even Montana Power doesn't have a plan of action when it comes to PVC incidents. He recommended that the committee pass the resolution.

Senator Weeding also stated his frustration that the Board of Health representatives were not present.

Chief Black clarified that placarded vehicles are supposed to carry information regarding how to respond to a hazardous materials accident, and also the vehicle is to have a person in it at all times. It was stated, however, that it is not always prudent to go to the vehicle in order to read instructions on responding to a spill. In fact, many vehicles don't carry the information. There are only two or three fire departments in the State that have any capability to respond.

In the course of the discussion it was mentioned that the Right-to-Know Act was passed during the 49th Legislative Session. Under HB 750 which was the Right-to-Know Law, the Federal Title III Superfund amendments were incorporated. Part of that act concerns the data sheets that were referred to, but part of the act was also the establishing of emergency planning committees. The Governor had within a year to establish a State Agency for Emergency Planning Purposes, not only for in-place hazardous materials, but also for accidental spills on highways, etc. From that State Agency, there is supposed to be an appointment of local emergency planning committees. It was agreed that there is somewhat of an overlap of HJR 44 and Title III (SARAA), HJR 44 is broader than SARAA; However, SARAA will impact this study within the next couple of years.

Senator Hofman asked about CHEMTRAC and Chief Black explained that CHEMTRAC is an office in Washington, D.C., with a 24-hour toll free number. Chemical companies formed the association, and it's the only way to find accurate information on a chemical in an emergency.

CLOSING: After the study, Montanans will be more knowledge-able, and Senator Lynch said that Montana probably doesn't need 56 disaster response units, but we may need 15. He said perhaps the recommendation will be made to the legislature to provide funding for education on chemical hazards, and hopefully, efforts can be better coordinated in this area.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 44: Senator Lynch moved that HJR 44 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion CARRIED unanimously.

There being no more business before the committee, Senator Keating adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

THOMAS F. KEATING, Chairman

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NOTE: James T. Mular, Butte, arrived too late for the meeting, but submitted his statement for the record. (Exhibit 4)

#### ROLL CALL

### NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE

50th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1987

Date April 8, 1987

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Sen. Tom Keating, Chairman			
Vice Sen. Cecil Weeding, Chairman	<b>/</b>		
Sen. John Anderson	•		/
Sen. Mike Halligan			
Sen. Delwyn Gage	<b>/</b>		
Sen. Lawrence Stimatz			
Sen. Larry Tveit			
Sen. "J.D." Lynch	V.		
Sen. Sam Hofman	. /		
Sen. William Yellowtail	V		
Sen. Elmer Severson	<b>V</b>		
Sen. Mike Walker			

Each day attach to minutes.

COMMITTEE ON natural Resources

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Paul Spengler	Lewis + Clark Ca. D.E.S.	11	4	
Russ Brown	N.P.R.C. Sellows Fore Enty	HJR	V	
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NAME Mina Fuich	BILL NO. 4JR	444
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## Disaster and Emergency Services Division

#### BUTTE-SILVER BOW COUNTY

SILVER BOW COUNTY COURTHOUSE - P.O. BOX 4046 - SEMATE NATURAL RESOURCES

WILMA PUICH Coordinator EXHIBIT NO. 1 (page) PH. 782-1515

DATE 4-8-87

Mr. Chairman and Members:

My name is Wilma Puich and I am the Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator of Butte/Silver Bow. I am here today to speak in favor of HJR #44.

I am certain that every person in this room has read or seen on television some community involved in a major hazardous material incident. Yet, I wonder how many of us have ever considered what could and will happen when a major incident occurs in our own community. I say when because believe me it is not if but when will it happen. Are all 56 counties totally prepared to handle such an incident. For that matter, is the State government prepared?

By the end of 1984, every county in Montana completed a detailed hazard analysis. This process identified every potential hazard and the probable impact it could have on people and property in our communities. A weighting factor was used to rank the potential hazards, taking into consideration the history, vulnerability, maximum threat and probability of such a hazard occurring. Now, maybe all of this sounds irrevelant to the issue we are addressing here today but believe me this process produced some startling facts. Every county in the state ranked the transportation of hazardous materials or fixed site facilities as one of the top five hazards facing their respective communities.

So, we have identified a possible life-threatening situation facing every county in the state and yet, no state agency has been designated the responsibility of all four phases of emergency management - mitigation, planning, response and recovery. No state guidance flows down to the local level to insure a common understanding of procedures. No state agency has control over the decision making process during such an emergency. No state agency affords local communities a comprehensive training program for first response units or the general public. Thus, training is fragmented

Page Two
Puich Testimony HJR #44
and very costly.

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HJR 44

I want to discuss training for the general public because I am a firm believer that in this instance training for them must be a vital component of the training program. If you and your family take a ride this Sunday and on some Montana highway you encounter an over-turned semi, which has on board some 50,000 gallons of some unknown substance, would you be able to identify that substance by the placard on the side of the vehicle? Are you aware that much of this transported material cannot be smelled or seen? You can't see it or smell it but oh boy you can breathe it.

Now, this leads us to equipment. The necessary response equipment is very costly. The financial burden placed upon a county equipping and training a hazardous material response van is phenomenal. Is it necessary for all 56 counties to be so equipped and trained? Who determines who should and shouldn't be?

So, if Silver Bow County is fully equipped and trained and Mineral County calls for some much needed advise, and un-intentionally, the wrong advise is given, is Silver Bow County libel? If I call the State Board of Health at 2:00 a.m. and the same type of incident happens is the duty officer or the agency libel? Please bear in mind that over 10,000 such hazardous materials have been identified. Just to keep a library on them is a tremendous cost.

Is enough being done in the area of truck and rail inspections? Remember these highway and rails run through your county as well as mine. These same trucks and trains carry items we all have come to become dependent upon. These items enhance our very way of life and the only way to get them is to transport them from county to county and state to state.

Therefore, do you feel that we as decision makers in our counties, are doing everything possible to insure the safety of our citizens and property when it comes to the topic of hazardous materials? I feel we are doing what we can with what resources are available to us but more, much more needs to be done. I alone cannot begin to solve the problems facing us as D.E.S. Coordinators, fire chiefs, sheriffs medical personnel, etc., but by many people working together, with a common goal in

Page Three Puich Testimony HJR #44

mind, there are answers and ways to put this all into perspective.

I therefore request you concur with HJR #44 and give it a "do pass" recommendation.

Thank You.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXH:31T NO. 2 (p.3)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HAR 44

### SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES EXHIBIT NO. 2

#### HAZARD RANKING AMONG 3,286 LOCAL JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdictions Viewing Hazard as

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Rank	Hazard	No.	3,286	Population
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1	Nuclear Attack	(All jurisdi	ctions are vul	nerable to attack)
2	HAZNAT - Highway	2,959	90.0	196,064,389
3	Severe Winter Storm	2,719	82.7	161,263,981
4	Flood	2,373	72.2	167,301,193
5	HAZMAT - Rail	2,315	70.5	178,852,195
J	THEREIT NOTE	2,313	70.5	170,032,133
6	Tornado	2,287	69.6	138,383,798
7	Power Failure	2,280	69.4	147,364,679
8	HAZMAT - Stationary	2,154	65.6	172,259,836
9	Urban Fire	2,003	61.0	155,231,733
10	Wildfire	1,618	49.2	85,829,928
10	MIGILIE	1,010	40.2	03,023,320
11	HAZMAT - Pipeline	1,596	48.6	137,049,166
12		1,509	45.9	79,071,796
	Agricultural Drought			
13	Air Transportation	1,440	43.8	148,852,193
14	Dam Failure	1,261	38.4	96,495,437
15	Rail Transportation	1,037	31.6	109,719,723
16	Earthquake	1,001	30.5	78,693,413
17	Urban Drought	968	29.5	68,328,860
18	Hurricane/Tropical Storm	894	27.2	74,245,798
				• •
19	Civil Disorder	852	25.9	101,902,107
20	HAZMAT - River	617	18.8	70,340,325
21	Fixed Nuclear Facility	410	12.5	44,052,093
22	Subsidence	312	9.5	27,271,212
23	Landslide	280	8.5	23,345,488
24	Tsunami	93	2.8	7,828,788
25	Volcano	88	2.7	6,660,644
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26	Avalanche	55	1.7	3,770,616

 <sup>(1)</sup> No. of jurisdictions viewing hazard as significant threat (base = 3,286)
 (2) Percent of jurisdictions viewing hazard as significant threat

Total population of jurisdictions viewing hazard as significant threat

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES EXHIBIT NO.  $\frac{1}{(\rho.5)}$ 

RISK TO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS BILL NO.

(No. of Jurisdictions, Population Affected, Frequency)

(1) Type of	(2) No. of	(3) % of		Fred	ruency (	(4 (% Dis		ion)	
HAZMAT Incident	Juris- dictions	Population Affected	1	<u>5</u>	10	<u>50</u>	100	100+	Not Occ
Highway	2,959	32.7	38.6	23.5	8.9	1.7	•2	.4	25.5
Rail	2,315	30.0	16.9	26.3	16.3	4.4	•5	•3	33.5
Stationary	2,154	35.2	28.1	23.6	13.5	2.5	•6	•5	30.4
Pipeline	1,596	24.0	10.3	15.4	16.5	8.6	.8	1.1	45.6
River	617	29.4	16.9	20.4	17.0	6.2	1.0	•6	36.6

Federal Emergency Management Agency's Hazard Identification, Capability Assessment, and Multi-Year Development Plan (HICA/MYDP), updated Winter 1985.

<sup>(2)</sup> No. of jurisdictions viewing hazard as significant threat (base = 3,286)

<sup>(3)</sup> Percent of total jurisdiction population potentially affected seriously by worst-case incident

<sup>(4)</sup> Frequency of major incident occurring (1 = once or more a year; 5 = once every 5 years, etc.; Not Occ = has not occurred; NA = no answer)

NUMBER OF JURISDICTIONS VIEWING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
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SENAIE	NATURAL	RESOURCES
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EXHIBIT NO.  $\frac{1}{4-8-87}$ BILL NO.  $\frac{45844}{15844}$ 

BILL NO.\_

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HAZMAT THREATS	JURISDICTION
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SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 1 (69)

DATE 4-8-87

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SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

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### ANACONDA-DEER LODGE COUNTY

Courthouse - 800 South Main Anaconda, Montana 59711

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES EXHIBIT NO

BILL NO. Telephone (406) 563-8421

March 23, 1987

Montana House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee State Capitol Helena, Montana 59620

Re: Joint Resolution No. 44, Hazardous Materials

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County supports the intent and adoption of Joint Resolution No. 44 calling for the appointment of an interim committee to address concerns regarding the control of hazardous materials incidents. With the increasing number of transports on our railroads and highways carrying hazardous materials, the question becomes when we will have a serious incident, not if we will have a serious incident.

Local government generally, and Anaconda-Deer Lodge County specifically, is ill prepared to handle a hazardous waste and/or material incident. The nature of the risk is incredibly broad as each type of hazardous material requires a carefully selected response. The requisite research to determine the appropriate response is itself a significant task; the capital outlay for appropriate equipment and material and the training for personnel combine to define this issue as one best addressed by the State government.

The interim committee could appropriately define the issues for the Legislature's attention during the next regular session. We endorse and support Resolution No. 44 to that end.

Sincerely,

Ben Wifoss

City-County Manager

RBB:cg

## County Clerk and Recording

**BROADWATER COUNTS** 

P.O. BOX 489

1.141.N 1.15NA 5963

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXH. 71. 110. 3 (p.1)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO.\_ HJR 44

March 23, 1987

RE: House Joint Resolution No. 44

Broadwater County rises in support of House Joint Resolution No. 44. I have prepared information for you to review concerning a problem that arose in Broadwater County on September 10, 1985 which concerned a truck carrying sulphuric acid.

I would like to give you a short summary of the problems that have come up due to this accident.

The local DES Coordinator was notified of a hazardous material spill at 3:36 a.m. and the State DES was notified of the spill at 3:37. The Board of Health was also notified. The documentation that I have given you shows the secquence of events that happened during this time from the beginning of the spill to the end of the clean-up. It also shows all of the agencies involved in this event and the critique and summary. I will not go into this in detail because of the information that I have supplied.

I would like to inform you of the problems that have arose since that time.

On October 1, 1985 I notified the trucking company that a bill would be forthcoming on the accident and on November 20, 1985 I sent a copy of all of the documentation and a bill to the company. On February 4, 1986 I wrote another letter to the trucking company stating that I had not heard from them or their insurance company and stated that I thought I would have to refer the matter of the claim to the county attorney. On February 20, 1986 I received a letter from the insurance company stating that they needed additional time so that their office could collect information so that they could properly arrive at a damage decision. I referred all of this correspondence to the county attorney and a deadline of June 7, 1986 was given the insurance company of Broadwater County would undertake to file a suit on behalf of the county to collect. On June 3, 1986 I sent a letter to the Department of Health stating that it had been brought to the attention of the county that perhaps the responsibility of the clean-up operation should be with the Department of Health and a follow up letter was sent again on June 30, 1986. The Department of Health notified the county that there were no funds available for the Department for use under Title 75, Chapter 10.

An Attorney General's Opinion was requested and I have enclosed a copy of that for your inforantion.

To date, the insurance company wants to settle with Broadwater County for \$30,873.55. The Department of Health still feels that it is not their responsibility and Broadwater County is left "holding the bag".

This is just a summary of some of the problems that have arose. In the information that I have submitted to you for review, other problems have been addressed which includes responsiblity of departments.

#### BROADWATER COUNTY

## Board of County Commissioners

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

October 1, 1985

		RESOURCES
EXH'BIT	NO. 3(	P.3)
DATE	NO. 3(	87
	HJI	

Alvin W. Munns & Sons, Inc.

Route 3, Box 356

Rexburg, Idaho 83440

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that Broadwater County will be submitting a bill to you for your insurance company on the acid spill cleanup process for the accident that your driver Dean Allen Wykle had on September 10, 1985.

The statement that we send to you will be due and payable to Broadwater County, Box 489, Townsend, Montana. If you have any questions concerning this process, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Judith R. Doggett, Clerk

to the Board of Commissioners

### County Clerk and Recorder

**BROADWATER COUNTY** 

P.O. BOX 489

**TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644** 

November 20, 1985

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 ( p < 3)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HJR44

Alvin W. Munns & Sons, Inc.

Route 3, Box 356

Rexburg, Idaho 83440

RE: ACID SPILL HIGHWAY 287, TOWNSEND, MONTANA

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the bills and the supporting documentation for the clean up on the recent acid spill that was in Broadwater County on September 10, 1985.

These are the total costs to date. There may be more expense at a later date if the Department of Health decides that the site needs to be dug up and hauled to a disposal site. At the present time, the Department of Health has had the county cover the spill site and they will monitor the PH on it for several months. Hopefully, this will be all that is necessary but there is always the possiblity that more work may need to be done at a later date.

If you or your insurance company has any questions on these bills, please call me at 406-266-3443 and I will try to answer.

udith/R. Doggett///Cleri

## County Clerk and Recorder

**BROADWATER COUNTY** 

P. O. BOX 489

#### TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

February 4, 1986

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p.4)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HJR 44

Alvin W. Munns & Sons, Inc.

Route 3, Box 356

Rexburg, Idaho 83440

RE: ACID SPILL HIGHWAY 287, TOWNSEND, MONTANA

Dear Sir:

To date we have not received any correspondence or payment from you or your insurance company on the cleanup of the acid spill on Highway 287 near Townsend, Montana. I have sent supporting documentation and several bills to you.

I feel that I must refer this matter to the county attorney for action to be taken.

incerely,

Judith R. Doggett, Clerk

CC: John Flynn, County Attorney United Agencies, Inc.

#### EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENT COMPANY, INC. POST OFFICE BOX 2023 BILLINGS, MONTANA 59103-2023 404-252-5178 (24 HOUR)

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#### Multiple Line Adjusters Since 1956

DATE: FEBRUARY 20, 1986

TO: COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER

BROADWATER COUNTY POST OFFICE BOX 489

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644 SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXH'317 NO. 3 (0

BILL NO.

ATTENTION CLAIMS DEPARTMENT: JUDITH R. DOGGETT, CLERK

RE: INSURED: ALVIN W. MUNINS AND SONS, INC.

POLICY NUMBER: DATE OF LOSS:

A5-2865 9/10/85

YOUR CLAIM NUMBER:

L198-507M

OUR CLAIM NUMBER:

M552

CARRIER:

CANAL INSURANCE COMPANY

DEAR MS. DOGGETT:

THE ABOVE INSURED HAS PROVIDED YOUR CORRESPONDENCE TO HIS LIABILITY INSURANCE CARRIER AND THEY HAVE PROVIDED SAME TO OUR OFFICE FOR INVESTIGATION.

WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED A CLEAR CONFIRMATION OF COVERAGE FROM THE CARRIER, CANAL INSURANCE COMPANY. OUR INVESTIGATION IS ONGOING, HOWEVER, AS YET, INCOMPLETE.

I WOULD REQUEST THAT YOU ALLOW SOME ADDITIONAL TIME FOR OUR OFFICE TO COLLECT AND PROVIDE TO THE CARRIER SUFFICIENT INFORMATION FOR THEM TO PROPERLY ARRIVE AT A COVERAGE AND DAMAGES DECISION.

PLEASE COPY THIS OFFICE WITH ANY FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE TO OUR INSURED.

I WILL MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO COMPLETE MY INVESTIGATION AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND COOPERATION.

Y YOURS.

M. V. WALTERS

**ADJUSTER** 

71/11SSOULA COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY
MISSOULA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
MISSOULA, MONTANA 59802
TELEPHONE (406) 721-5700

ROBERT L. DESCHAMPS III

COUNTY ATTORNEY

April 19, 1985

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3(p.la)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO.

Orin Olsgaard DES Coordinator Courthouse Annex Missoula, MT 59802

Re:

JURISDICTION OF STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH OFFICERS IN HAZARDOUS

MARRIAL THORRADOU

MATERIAL INCIDENTS

Dear Orin:

Per the request of the Disaster Planning Committee I have looked at the statutes regarding who has superior jurisdiction in hazardous material incidents as between the State Department of Health and Environmental Sciences and the local health officers. In my opinion the State has paramount jurisdiction.

Chapter 10 of Title 75, dealing with waste and litter control, including hazardous waste gives virtually complete jurisdiction of these matters to the State Department. Furthermore, Title 50, regarding Health and Safety in general, puts the State Department in primary jurisdiction over health matters, with the local health departments being essentially it's local agents.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Deschamps III Missoula County Attorney

RLD: hr

JOHN T. FLYNN

BOX 96

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

(406) 266-3444

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3(p.1)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. 1728 44

May 12, 1986

M. V. Walters, Adjuster

EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENT COMPANY, INC.

PO Box 2023

Billings, MT

59103-2023

RE:

INSURED: Alvin W. Munns and Sons, Inc.

POLICY NO.: A5-2865

DATE OF LOSS: 9/10/85

CLAIM NO.: M552

CARRIER: Canal Insurance Co.

Dear Mr. Walters:

Your correspondence of February 20, 1986, has been referred to my office. In that letter you requested additional time to investigate this claim.

I believe that Broadwater County has been more than generous in complying with that request. We do wish to see this claim settled as quickly as possible. If such cannot be accomplished by June 7, 1986, I will undertake to file suit on behalf of Broadwater County to collect the same.

Your attention to this matter would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

John T. Flynn BROADWATER COUNTY ATTORNEY

JTF lba

cc: Canal Insurance

Alvin W. Munns & Sons

Judith Doggett, Clerk and Recorder

### County Clerk and Recorder

**BROADWATER COUNTY** 

P.O. BOX 489

**TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644** 

June 3, 1986

EXHIBIT NO. 3 ( p.8)

DATE 4-8-87

Bill Potts
Department of Health and Environmental Sciences
Cogswell Building
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Mr. Potts:

It has been brought to our attention that the recent (September, 1985) chemical spill that occurred in Broadwater County should have been submitted to the state for for reimbursement of expenses.

We have documentation of all the activities that occurred concerning that spill and have billed the trucking company that had the accident. (Alvin Munns & Sons) In the meantime, we find that the department of health has funds available to reimburse for the cleanup of this accident.

I am sending you all of the documentation that is available from Broadwater County. Broadwater County paid the expenses to the various persons and organizations that helped with this cleanup.

We have not heard from the insurance company after the last letter was sent by the county attorney nor have we received any compensation from the company.

Any help that you can give us on this problem would be greatly appreciated and if you have any questions concerning the documentation, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Judith R. Doggett, Clerk to th Board of County Commissioners

Enc.

DISASTER & EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

P. O. BOX 4789

### STATE OF MONTANA

(406) 444-6911

HELENA, MONTANA 59604

July 1, 1986

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p, q) DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HJR 44

Monowar.

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

George, Chris, Dan and District Representatives

FROM:

Richard L. Morgan, District III Representative &

SUBJECT:

Hazardous Materials Clean-up and Financial Responsibility

Enclosed is a letter written by Broadwater County to Dr. Drynan. This letter reflects an ongoing problem with the definition of responsibility for a hazardous material spill on State and Federal Highways.

Unfortunately, this is not the only jurisdiction to have the problem. Gallatin County and West Yellowstone are currently experiencing the same problem in recovering costs after an incident. The insurance companies either refuse to pay or stall payment for as long as possible. The Health Department fails to act, and the local jurisdiction gets stuck with the expense.

If this situation is not rectified, all involved state agencies will be explaining their actions or non-actions in court.

#### BROADWATER COUNTY

## Board of County Commissioners

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

June 30, 1986

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (2.12)

DATE 4-8-87

John J. Drynan, M.D. Director Department of Health & Environmental Sciences Cogswell Building Helena, MT 59620

Re: Sulphuric Acid Spill, Broadwater County

Dear Dr. Drynan:

In reference to the sulphuric acid spill truck accident of September 10, 1985, Broadwater County has expended \$43,406.39 for the clean-up and mitigation of this accident. The responsibility for reimbursement of these costs rest with the truck company insurance. The truck company has been billed continuously since November, 1985. As of this date, no reimbursement has been received by Broadwater County.

Since the accident, it has come to my attention that the responsibility for the entire clean-up operation lies with the Montana Health and Environmental Sciences Department. This responsibility is clearly defined in Title 75, Chapter 10, MCA, and also in Title 50, MCA. It is the responsibility of the department to collect the money from the insurance company. If collection is not possible, the department is to reimburse the affected parties from Environmental Protection Agency Funds under its administration.

I have done everything in my power to collect the debt from the trucking company. Now, the county fiscal year is ending and the cost of the clean-up will not be able to be carried as a reimbursable item in the county accounting system. This fact has the potential for placing the county commissioners in a position of failure to budget for an expenditure that has already been made.

Your department has failed to assist Broadwater County and/or assume the responsibilities defined by the Montana Code to rectify this entire matter. Broadwater County, in good faith, assumed responsibilities for response and recovery during this incident which were later found not to be theirs. I have sent the complete documentation of this matter to Duane Robertson, Bureau Chief, but I have received no written response.

John J. Drynan, M.D. Page 2
June 30, 1986

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCE	ES.
EXHIBIT NO. 31 p.11)	<u> </u>
DATE 4-8-87	
BILL NO_ H > 57 44	<i>∮≱</i> 1.

If your agency fails to assume its responsibility, it will be necessary for Broadwater County to initiate a civil suit to recover the funds due it.

I would appreciate your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

William E. Duede, Chairman

Board of County Commissioners

WED/bj

#### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

COGSWELL BUILDING

### STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

July 7, 1986

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 ( p. 12)

BILL NO HJR 44

William E. Duede, Chairman Board of County Commissioners Broadwater County Townsend, MT 59644

Dear Mr. Duede:

In response to your letter of June 30, 1986 regarding the spill of sulfuric acid near Townsend, I regret to hear that Broadwater County has not yet received compensation for the clean-up costs incurred by the County. Insofar as these costs are concerned, the Department is without authority to reimburse you pursuant to the remedial action laws for release of a hazardous substance contained in Title 75, Chapter 10, Part 7, but perhaps we can provide some general advisory assistance.

For your clarification I have enclosed a copy of Title 75, Chapter 10, and a copy of the "Statement of Intent" which was attached to this legislation in its final form. Pursuant to the law, compensation from a responsible party is available only when the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences has undertaken the clean-up and upon provision of timely written notice to the responsible party of liability for damages. At this point counties are not authorized to claim against the fund for costs incurred by them, although the Department is considering proposing legislation for the next regular session that would include claims by and on behalf of counties against the environmental protection fund. It should be mentioned here as well that as a practical matter, no funds are currently available to the Department for use under Title 75, Chapter 10.

If the Board of County Commissioners or its attorney would like any further clarification or guidance insofar as available remedies against the responsible party and/or its insurance carrier, please contact Katherine J. Orr, Counsel for the Department, at 444-2630.

Very truly yours,

John J. Drynan, M.D.

Director

JJD:yf

cc: Katherine J. Orr

Att.



#### **MEMO**

#### **DISASTER & EMERGENCY SERVICES**



### STATE OF MONTANA

T0	Judy Doggett, Broadwater County
FROM	Dick Morgan
DATE_	July 1, 1986

#### **REMARKS:**

Enclosed is the memo with which I forwarded your letter to the affected individuals in our agency. Hopefully, your letter will generate some action for Broadwater and all other counties who are placed in this situation.

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p. 13)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. H.) R 44

REFERENCE BILL
HB 76

for funds expended

accounting

for retaining consultants to

edial actions under the department's direction;

uthorized to adopt rules clarifying and setting forth more fund for the purpose of taking emergency deleterious substances into the environment. Rulemaking bill establishes a special fund and authorizes required for the implementation of these provisions. It the intent of the legislature that the department emedial action in cases of release of hazardous detailed procedures and criteria in such areas as:

- (1) definition of remedial actions to include such things as cleanup and restoration of water resources, provisions of alternate sources of supply, relocation of persons and property in imminent danger of injury or damage. ind investigation and monitoring of releases of hazardour ind deleterious substances;
- procedures for identifying responsible parties and of the department's intent to take remedial notifying them actions
- emergency, actions in criteria for taking prior Ē

(c) the state of Montana will pay or assure payment of a share of the

asts of the remedial action, including all future maintenance.

History: En. Sec. 3, Ch. 241, L. 1983. 75-10-604. Cooperative agreement — when effective. (1) If a cooperative agreement requires expenditure of state and federal funds which,

together with the monetary obligation contained in any prior cooperative greement made during the same biennium, exceeds the amount appropriated for that biennium for implementation of this part, the agreement is not effecive until it is approved by the legislature and an appropriation is made prosiding the level of funding necessitated by the agreement.

(2) A cooperative agreement that does not require expenditure of funds exceeding the appropriation for the biennium for implementation of this part, is effective when signed by the governor and the president or their respective moresentatives.

History: En. Sec. 4, Ch. 241, L. 1983.

History: En. Sec. 1, Ch. 711, L. 1985.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES EXHIBIT NO. 3/2

BILL NO.

Part 7

Remedial Action Upon Release

of Hazardous Substance

75-10-701. Definitions. As used in this part, unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply: (1) "Department" means the department of health and environmental sci-

- ences provided for in Title 2, chapter 15, part 21. (2) "Fund" means the environmental quality protection fund established in 75-10-704.
- (3) "Hazardous or deleterious substance" means a substance that poses an imminent and substantial threat to public health and that is either a petro-

leum product or listed as a hazardous substance in volume 50, Federal Register, pages 13474 through 13513. (4) "Release" means any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting,

emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing of A hazardous or deleterious substance either directly into the environment or m a manner in which the substance can reasonably be expected to enter the environment if not contained, removed, or abated, but excludes releases confined to the indoor workplace environment, the use of pesticides as defined in 80-8-102(30) when they are applied in accordance with approved federal and state labels, and the use of commercial fertilizers as defined in 80-10-101(2) when applied as part of accepted agricultural practice.

(5) "Remedial action" includes all investigation, monitoring, cleanup, resloration, abatement, removal, replacement, and other actions necessary or appropriate to respond to a release.

75-10-702. Rulemaking authority. The department is authorized to adopt rules for the implementation of this part. History: En. Sec. 7, Ch. 711, L. 1985.

HBIT NO.

- 75-10-703. Actions general provisions. (1) No action taken 1 any person to contain or remove a release, whether the action is taken he tarily or at the request of the department or its designee, may be confirm as an admission of liability for the discharge.
- (2) Actions taken by the department pursuant to 75-10-711 and 75-10-71 are not subject to the public bidding requirements of Title 18. History: En. Sec. 5, Ch. 711, L. 1985.
- 75-10-704. Environmental quality protection fund. (1) There NATE NATURAL RESOURCES ted in the state special revenue fund an environmental quality prote fund to be administered as a revolving fund by the department. The depart ment is authorized to expend amounts from the fund necessary to carried the purposes of this part.
  - (2) The fund may be used to carry out the provisions of this part and to remedial actions taken by the department pursuant to this part in response to a release of hazardous or deleterious substances.
    - (3) There must be deposited in the fund:
    - (a) all department expenditures recovered pursuant to 75-10-715;
    - (b) funds appropriated to the fund by the legislature; and
  - (c) funds received from the environmental contingency account within state special revenue fund established pursuant to 75-1-1101.
  - (4) Whenever the amount of money in the fund is insufficient to carry of remedial action, the department may apply to the governor for a grant F the environmental contingency account within the state special revenue established pursuant to 75-1-1101.

History: En. Sec. 2, Ch. 711, L. 1985; amd. Sec. 11, Ch. 711, L. 1985.

### 75-10-705 through 75-10-710 reserved.

- 75-10-711. Remedial action. (1) The department may take remediate action necessary and appropriate to protect the public health, public welfer or the environment whenever it determines that:
- (a) there has been a release or there is a substantial threat of a release and
- (b) the appropriate remedial action will not be done properly and expedi tiously by the owner or operator of the vessel, vehicle, or facility from which the release emanates or by any other responsible party.
- (2) Whenever the department is authorized to act pursuant to subsection (1) or has reason to believe that a release has occurred or is about to occur. the department may undertake any investigation, monitoring, survey, testing or other information-gathering that is necessary and appropriate to identify the existence, nature, origin, and extent of the release or the threat of release and the extent and imminence of the danger to the public health, public at fare, or the environment.
- (3) Any person responsible for the release must take immediate action to contain, remove, and abate the release. Except as provided in 75-10-712, the department is authorized to draw upon the fund in order to take action under subsections (1) and (2) if it has made diligent good faith efforts to determine the identity of the party or parties responsible for the release or threatened release and:

- (a) is unable to determine the identity of the responsible party or parties
- a manner consistent with the need to take timely remedial action; or
- (b) the party or parties determined by the department to be responsible for the release or threatened release have been informed in writing of the spartment's determination and have been requested by the department to ake appropriate remedial action but are unable or unwilling to take such sction in a timely manner.
- (4) The written notice to a responsible party must inform the responsible party that if that party is subsequently found liable pursuant to 75-10-715, he may be required to reimburse the fund for the costs of the remedial action aken by the department and may be subject to punitive damages. History: En. Sec. 3, Ch. 711, L. 1985.

Cross-References Injunctions, Title 27, ch. 19. Nuisances, public and private, Title 27, ch. 30.

75-10-712. Emergency action. If the department determines that immediate response to an imminent threat to public health, public welfare, or the environment is necessary to avoid substantial injury or damage to persons, property, or resources, remedial action may be taken pursuant to

75-10-711(1) and (2) without the prior written notice required by 75-10-711(3)(b). In such a case, the department must give subsequent written adtice to the responsible party within 5 days after the action is taken,

prior notice. History: En. Sec. 4, Ch. 711, L. 1985.

describing the circumstances which required the action to be taken without NATURAL EXHIBIT NO. 3

75-10-713 and 75-10-714 reserved.

BILL NO\_ITTR 75-10-715. Reimbursement and penalties — proceedings

responsible for a release is liable for: (a) all costs of remedial action taken by the department pursuant to this

defenses. (1) Subject only to the defenses set forth in subsection (4), a party

- part: and
- (b) damages for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources
- caused by the release or threatened release. (2) If the responsible party fails, without sufficient cause, to properly pro-
- vide remedial action upon notification by the department pursuant to 75-10-711(3)(b), the responsible party may be liable for punitive damages in an amount not to exceed two times the amount of any costs incurred by the department pursuant to this section.
- (3) The department may initiate civil proceedings in district court to recover costs, damages, or penalties under subsections (1) and (2). Venue for any action to recover costs, damages, or penalties lies in the county where the release occurred or where the responsible party resides or has its principal
- place of business or in the district court of the first judicial district. (4) No party is liable under subsection (1) or (2) if that party can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that:
  - (a) the department failed to follow the notice provisions of 75-10-711 When required; or

- (b) the release did not emanate from any vessel, vehicle, or facility over which the party had any authority or control and was not caused by and action or omission of the party; or (c) in the case of assessment of punitive damages, that factors beyond the
- control of the responsible party prevented the party from taking timely reme dial action.
- (5) (a) Costs of remedial action recovered pursuant to subsection (1)(a) must be deposited in the fund.
- (b) Damages and penalties recovered pursuant to subsections (1)(b) and (2) must be deposited in the environmental contingency account within the state special revenue fund established pursuant to 75-1-1101.

History: En. Sec. 6, Ch. 711, L. 1985; amd. Sec. 11, Ch. 711, L. 1985.

### SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES EXHIBIT NO 3 (5.16) DATE BILL NO.

### CHAPTERS 11 THROUGH 14

### RESERVED

### CHAPTER 15

### LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

#### Part 1 - Outdoor Advertising

Section

75-15-101. Short title. 75-15-102. Policy. 75-15-103. Definitions.

75-15-104. More restrictive regulations preserved.

75-15-105. Relaxation of regulations if federal law changed.

75-15-106 through 75-15-110 reserved.

75-15-111. Outdoor advertising prohibited in proximity to highway — exceptions 75-15-112. Unlawful advertising. 75-15-113. Standards for permitted advertising.

75-15-114 through 75-15-120 reserved. 75-15-121. Commission rules authorized.

75-15-122. Permits required — identification tags — preexisting structures.

75-15-123. Acquisition of outdoor advertising rights - compensation.

75-15-124. Agreements with secretary establishing specifications for advertising.

75-15-125 through 75-15-130 reserved.

75-15-131. Entry to inspect — notice of unlawful advertising — remedial action. 75-15-132. False application or disrepair of structure - remedial action.

75-15-133. Nonconforming advertising as nuisance.

75-15-134. Violation as misdemeanor.

### Part 2 - Junkyards

75-15-201. Purposes.

75-15-202. Interpretation.

75-15-203. Definitions.

75-15-204. Agreements with the United States.

75-15-205. Injunction.

75-15-206 through 75-15-210 reserved.

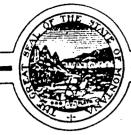
75-15-211. License required.

75-15-212. Repealed.

75-15-213. Repealed.

75-15-214. Highways to issue license for junkyards.

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

COGSWELL BUILDING

### STATE OF MONTANA

Solid & Hazardous Waste Bureau Telephone: 406-444-2821

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

July 10, 1986

Board of Co. Commissioners Broadwater Co. Courthouse Townsend, MT 59644 EXHIBIT NO. 3(6/9)

DATE 4-8-87

BULL NO. HTG 44

Gentlemen:

Re: September, 1985 Acid Spill North of Townsend

In a recent telephone conversation with Mrs. Doggett, she indicated the insurer of the acid transporter was questioning the amount of lime that was used to neutralize the spill. The amount was arrived at by Department of Health and Environmental Sciences personnel in concert with other knowledgeable individuals at the scene. We were experiencing difficulty in getting enough lime into the acid which had soaked into the ground, and were further concerned that enough lime be applied to enable the immediate excess to leach into the ground to neutralize that acid. The conditions at the site did not allow for precise measurement of lime quantities, and it is our opinion the use of a large quantity was justified.

If you need me to testify at any court proceedings as to DHES actions, please contact Frank Crowley in our legal division or myself to make arrangements.

As I stated earlier, you were very fortunate to have help from your local businesses in helping to remedy this spill. Without their assistance, the spill remediation would surely have cost thousands more because of ground-water clean-up.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Vic R. Andersen

Vic. R. anderse

Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau

VRA:ao

JOHN T. FLYNN
BOX 96

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

(406) 266-3444

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXI

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p. 26)

BILL NO HJR

July 15, 1986

M. V. Walters, Adjuster
EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENT COMPANY, INC.
PO Box 2023
Billings, MT 59103-2023

RE:

INSURED: Alvin W. Munns and Sons, Inc.

POLICY NO: A5-2865 DATE OF LOSS: 9/10/85

CLAIM NO: M552

CARRIER: Canal Insurance Co.

Dear Mr. Walters:

In our recent telephone conversation you advised me that the insurance carrier has questioned certain items of Broadwater County's claim for damages resulting from the above-described hazardous waste spill. You enumerated four items of concern.

The first was the cost of the hydraulic crane. The position of the insurance carrier is that such cost was unnecessary because the tractor and trailer could have been moved without the crane prior to the application of the lime. However, it is my understanding that a wrecker operator from Helena, Montana, did in fact attempt to extricate the tractor and trailer from the accident site, but was unable to do so, necessitating the need for equipment of the nature of the hydraulic crane.

Another item of contention was that the amount of lime applied to the site was excessive. We would challenge that contention. Enclosed please find a copy of a letter from Vic R. Andersen of the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences explaining the details and reasons for the amount of lime that was applied at the accident site.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p. 21)

BATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HJR 44

M. V. Walters, Adjuster EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENT COMPANY, INC. July 15, 1986 PAge 2

The carrier has also challenged any costs for medical bills for injuries incurred during the cleanup. It strikes me that one of the natural and forseeable consequences of an accident and cleanup operation of this type would be some injuries. Therefore, a claim for medical damages would be most appropriate.

The last claim which was questioned by the carrier was the replacement cost for a water pump for the fire truck. As I understand it, because of the critical need for water at the scene of the accident, this pump had to remain in service for a considerable longer period than desired, and as a result of this high level of use, the pump was irreparably damaged.

It is my understanding that of the total claim, the carrier is not questioning the amount of \$30,783.55, but is questioning the sum of \$12,967.82. I feel that we have adquately addressed the questioned portion of the claim and that the insurance carrier should pay the sum in full. At the very least, however, the carrier should forward to Broadwater County that potion of the claim which was not in dispute.

If you have any further questions concerning the disputed portion of the claim or need any further documentation, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

John T. Flynn BROADWATER COUNTY ATTORNEY

JTF lba Enclosure

#### BROADWATER COUNTY

# Board of County Commissioners

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

July 17, 1986

John T. Flynn County Attorney Broadwater County Townsend, Montanaa 59644

RE: Acid Spill, Broadwater County

Dear John:

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p. 22)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HTR. (4)

Several questions have been raised concerning the responsibility of the clean-up on hazardous material spills and most recently the acid spill in September, 1985.

As you are aware, we have sent a letter to the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning Title 75, Chapter 10, Part 7 and we have also received a reply from that department in return claiming that the Department is without authority to reimburse the county.

We request your opinion or an Attorny General Opinion concerning the following questions:

Does the Department of Health have rules as allowed in Title 75, Chapter 10, Part 102 for remedial action. If so, does the county have access to the rules?

What is the role of the Health Department official at the scene of an accident involving hazardous materials? Is he advisory only or the commander of clean-up actions?

What agency is responsible for the clean-up on State and Federal Highway right-of-way? Who is responsible for contracting private services for clean-up?

Whose responsiblity is it to collect from the insurance company when that company delays payment or refuses to pay?

What responsiblity rests with the County government for clean-up actions?

Sincerely,

William E. Duede, Chairman Board of Commissioners

WED: jd

### EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENT COMPANY, INC POST OFFICE BOX 2023 BILLINGS, MONTANA 59103-2023 (406) 252-5178 24 HOUR

### Multiple Line Adjusters Since 1956

DATE: JULY 27, 1986

TO: BROADWATER COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY, JOHN T. FLYNN

POST OFFICE BOX 96

Section 1

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 ( p.23)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO HJR44

RE: INSURED:

ALVIN W. MUNNS AND SONS, INC.

ر المراج المراج المراجعة المر

POLICY NUMBER: CO. CLAIM NUMBER: A5-2865

OUR CLAIM NUMBER:

L198-50M M552

DATE OF LOSS:

9/10/85

COMPANY:

CANAL INSURANCE COMPANY

#### DEAR HR. FLYNN:

I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF JULY 15, 1986, AND HAVE SENT IT FOREMARD TO THE CARRIER FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

REGARDING YOUR REMARKS ON FOUR OF THE ITEMS THE CARRIER HAS QUESTIONED AND THAT HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE BILLS YOU HAVE PRESENTED TO THEIR INSURED, I WANT TO MAKE SOME CLARIFYING STATEMENTS.

THE INSURED AND THE CARRIER CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY THE SUPERVISING AUTHORITY DID NOT ALLOW THE WRECKER TO GET THE UNIT UPRIGHTED AND PUMPED OUT AT THE EARLIEST TIME. INSTEAD, THE UNIT WAS ALLOWED TO LAY IN THE BARROW PIT AND CONTINUE TO LEAK ACID INTO THE AREA FOR MANY HOURS LONGER THAN NECESSARY. CERTAINLY, THE FIRST STEP IN PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT FROM A HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE IS TO REDUCE OR TO STOP THE HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE FROM FURTHER CONTAMININATING THE AREA. IN THIS CASE, UPRIGHTING THE UNIT AT AN EARLY TIME AND PUMPING OUT THE ACID (AS WAS ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE PUP TRAILER) WOULD HAVE RESULTED IN LESS CONTAMINATION AND FAR LESS EXPENSE INVOLVED IN THE RESULTING CLEANUP.

IT APPEARS THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES WAS ON THE SCENE AND IN A SUPERVISORY CAPACITY. PERHAPS THEY DIRECTED ALL ACITVITIES AT THE SCENE, EVEN THOSE OF BROADWATER COUNTY PERSONEL.

#### REGARDING THE FOUR ITEMS TO WHICH YOU DIRECTED YOUR COMMENTS:

- 1) THE HYDROLIC CRANE WAS BROUGHT INTO USE AFTER THE LIME WAS POURED AROUND THE TRACTOR AND TRAILER AS IT LAY ON ITS SIDE AT THE SCENE. WITH 138.28 TONS OF LIME ON AND AROUND THE UNIT, THE WRECKER COULD NOT GET IT OUT AND THE CRANE WAS NECESSARY. THE TOWING FACILITY ASVISES THAT THEY WERE READY AND PREPARED TO UPRIGHT THE UNIT PRIOR TO THE APPLICATION OF THE LIME, HOWEVER, WERE ORDERED TO STOP THEIR OPERATIONS BY A STATE OR COUNTY SUPERVISOR AT THE SCENE.
- 2) THE AMOUNT OF LINE NECESSARY TO NEUTRALIZE THE AMOUNT OF ACID IN THE UNIT WAS EXCEEDED BY SEVERAL TIMES THE USUAL QUANTITY, WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THERE WOULD BE MORE LINE NECESSITATED DUE TO THE GROUND SATURATION, HOWEVER, WE ALSO REALIZE THAT IF ANY ATTEMPT HAD BEEN MADE TO "TURN OFF THE FAUCET", THE OUTBALL AND INTO THE ACID COLUMN DESCRIPTION OF ACID COLUMN DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION DESCRIPTION DESCRIPT

- 3) IN RECARD TO THE MEDICAL BILLS, WE FIND THAT MOST, IF NOT ALL, WERE FOR PERSONEL AT THE SCENE WORKING ON THE CLEANUP. PROPERLY EQUIPPED AND SUPERVISED, THE INSURED AND CARRIER DO NOT FEEL THAT THERE SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ANY INJURIES, EXCEPTING THOSE AS A RESULT OF CARELESSNESS ON THE PART OF THOSE INJURED. THE INSURED AND CARRIER DO NOT FEEL THAT THEY SHOULD BE LIABLE FOR THOSE INJURIES OR THEIR TREATMENT.
- 4) FINALLY, IF THE FIRE TRUCK PUMP WAS USED AT A HIGH RATE AND FOR A TIME PERIOD THAT EXCEEDED ITS CAPACITY, IT WAS AT THE DIRECTION OF SOMEONE IN CHARGE OF ITS OPERATION. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS FAILURE SHOULD REST WITH HE WHO ORDERED OR ALLOWED THE EXCESSIVE USE, NOT THE OWNER OF THE TRUCK AND CARGO. FURTHER, THE INSURED ADVISES THAT HAD THE UNIT BEEN REMOVED AND PUMPED OUT, THE WATER USE WOULD HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED.

THE INSURED HAS NUMEROUS ADDITIONAL OBJECTIONS TO THE BILL AND THE PROCEDURE THAT IT REPRESENTS WHICH WE HAVE NOT BROUGHT TO YOUR ATTENTION. HIS STATEMENT CLEARLY INDICATES THAT HE FEELS EXCESSIVE OVERREACTION AND POOR PROCEDURE DRASTICALLY INCREASED THE CLEANUP COSTS. HE HAD ALREADY ARRANGED FOR THE HANDLING OF THE SPILL WITH LOCAL AND KNOWLEDGEABLE FIRMS AND WAS DIRECTED BY A COUNTY OR STATE SUPERVISOR TO CEASE HIS ACTIVITIES. THE CLEANUP WAS THEN TAKEN INTO THE HANDS OF STATE AND COUNTY PERSONEL.

FURTHER, THE INSURED BELIEVES THAT THE HEADLAMPS ON THE UNIT MALFUNCTIONED AND THAT THE ACCIDENT WAS NOT THE FAULT OF HIS DRIVER OR HIMSELF. HE IS NOT CONVINCED THAT THE MATTER DESERVES ANY CONSIDERATION, AND BELIEVES THAT HE IS NOT NEGLIGENT.

THE CARRIER QUESTIONS ALL AMOUNTS ON THE BILL AS PRESENTED TO THE INSURED. THEY ARE, HOWEVER, ATTEMPTING TO GET THIS MATTER RESOLVED WITHOUT THE NECESSITY OF LITIGATION AND THE TIME AND COSTS IT REQUIRES. THERE IS STILL A SERIOUS QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE INSURED WAS NEGLIGENT IN THIS MATTER AND WHETHER HE OWES ANYTHING FOR THE CLEANUP OPERATION. CERTAINLY, AND WITHOUT REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF NEGLIGENCE, THERE IS THE QUESTION OF WHETHER HE IS LIABLE FOR ANY COSTS FOR THE CLEANUP WHICH APPEAR TO BE PREDICATED OUT OF MISINFORMATION OR POOR JUDGEMENT ON THE PART OF THE SUPERVISORS WHO TOOK OVER THE CLEANUP OPERATION FROM THE INSURED.

I BELIEVE THAT THE CARRIER IS MAKING AN ATTEMPT IN GOOD FAITH TO REACH A COMPROMISED SETTLEMENT THAT WILL SATISFY ALL PARTIES INVOLVED, HOWEVER, COMPROMISES MUST BE APPROACHED BY BOTH PARTIES. I HOPE WE MAY COOPERATE TO REACH A SETTLEMENT AT THE EARLIEST DATE.

I WILL IMMEDIATELY REPORT TO YOU THE DECISION OF THE CARRIER REGARDING PREPAYMENT OF THE AMOUNT YOU HAVE REQUESTED.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

DATE 4-8-8

EXHIBIT NO.

BILL NO. HTR45

Pileh IIV may demonstrate

VERY TRULY YOURS,

M. V. WALTERS ADJUSTER

ENCLOSURES:

County Clerk and Recorder

**BROADWATER COUNTY** 

P.O. BOX 489

**TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644** 

July 31, 1986

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3(p, 25)

BILL NO\_HTR44

Andrea Bennett
State Auditor & Ex Officio Commissioner of Insurance
Room 270, Sam W. Mitchell Building
Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Mrs. Bennett:

In September, 1985, Alvin W. Munns and Sons, Inc. had a trucking accident about three miles north of Townsend. The truck was carrying sulphuric acid and ran off the right side of the road and layed on its side in the barrow pit.

Broadwater County, Disaster and Emergency Services and the Department of Health all responded to this accident and a clean-up of the hazardous material was initiated.

Broadwater County paid all of the claims for the clean-up and submitted a bill along with the documentation to the trucking company for submission to their insurance company. Broadwater County charged the company with actual expenses incurred for the clean-up but the insurance company did not respond to our billing until several months later. Now, the insurance company is making some serious allegations concerning the clean-up process.

We think that the clean-up of this hazardous material was handled very well as this was the first accident of this kind in Broadwater County. We feel that we have been very patient with the insurance company but that the claims should have been paid by now. It has been almost one year since the date of the accident.

We do not feel that the allegations made by the insurance company are justified and we would like you to investigate this matter.

Bill Potts and Vic Anderson from the department of health were at the scene of the accident and can be contacted concerning this matter. Ray Dogget was the local county coordinator at the scene and he can also be contacted at 266-3443.

Any help that your office can give us in this matter will be greatly appreciated. I am available for any questions that you may have at 266-3443.

I am sending you a copy of the documentation and all correspondence that I have on this spill.

Stacerely,

Judith K. Dogget

Clerk & Recorder and

Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO.\_

DATE 4-8-187

BILL NO HJR44

Enc.

## STATE AUDITOR

### STATE OF MONTANA



# Andrea "Andy" Bennett STATE AUDITOR

August 7, 1986

COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF SECURITIES

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO.

BILL NO. HJR 44

Judith R. Doggett Clerk & Recorder and Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners Broadwater County P. O. Box 489 Townsend, MT 59644

Dear Ms. Doggett:

Thank you for your recent letter requesting assistance from my office. I have assigned Bob Post to work on your request.

I want you to know there may be a short delay while we obtain the necessary information and complete our review of the entire matter. However, we will notify you just as soon as possible.

To ensure that your request is handled efficiently and promptly, it has been given working number 8608-08. If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. Post on our toll-free number, 1-800-332-6148 unless you are in our Helena area and then please call us at 444-2040.

With best personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Andrea "Andy" Bennett

State Auditor and

Commissioner of Insurance

AB/me

(GL14-1 - 83-5)



JEFF. R. TRULUCK

TELEPHONE 803-242-5365

Mr. Bob Post, Compliance Specialists Policyholder's Services Montana Insurance Department P.O. Box 4009 Helena, Montana 59604

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p.28)

BILL NO HJR44

RE:

8608-08

Insured:

Alvin W. Munns and Sons Inc.

Accident Date:

9/10/85

Our File:

L198-507-M

Dear Mr. Post:

We are replying to your August 7 letter with the attached complaint.

We have reviewed our files and would advise this loss occured on September 10th and was reported to us the next day at which time we immediately made an assignment of investigation to a properly licensed and well qualified independent adjuster in the state of Montana. This adjuster immediately began his investigation as to damages to the insured's trucks and trailers as well as to investigate the circumstances surrounding the loss, including the area where the cargo had leaked into the soil.

During this investigation, we were in personal contact with the insured, through our adjuster, who became very upset at the beginning as to how the various governmental entities acted and reacted and attempted to direct and misdirect the actual equipment and machinery at the scene of the loss.

As a result of the collision and the subsequent application of lime onto the spilled acid which caused a chemical reaction, the insured's equipment was damaged considerably more, possibly to the extent of causing both the tractor and one of the trailers to be rendered a total loss. Under that first party coverage, a separate claim file has been initiated and we are handling that separately. There is a possibility our company will make a claim against those responsible for doing the additional damage to the equipment at the time immediately following the stoppage of the proper procedures being used to recover the tractor trailer unit before additional damages had occurred. We say that is a possibility and we recommend very strongly to advise you there is a great deal of consideration being given to pursuing that portion.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3(0.29)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HJR 44

Mr. Bob Post August 12, 1986

Now as to the complaint which is being handled under the above liability policy. We would advise our adjuster has been in communication with the county attorney representing the county and we believe in view of legal parties being involved, it should not burden the department with the aspects of the damages being claimed and whether or not any amounts are being offered. We believe we are in full compliance with the regulations of the department and the statutes of your state in that the necessary investigation was immediately commenced upon notification to the company and has been properly handled in a prompt manner by the adjuster who is well qualified and property licensed.

We trust under the circumstances, in view of the attorney activity and the possibility of our subrogation claim as well as the questions concerning negligence and "thought" as to the various parties concerning all of the damages, we have sufficiently answered the complaint directed to us through your department. We find no problem with our investigation as being timely and in accordance with the rules and regulations. Further, we believe the current status of all of the claims is at a stage wherein damages are questionable and negligence is questionable and liability is questionable. We believe the department does not wish to be involved in that portion of the claim after we have satisfied you that we have properly conducted our investigation and ourselves in that investigation.

If however there is something additional you feel is necessary or would like to have to assist you in further evaluating how we handled the loss, we will be happy to advise you.

Very truly yours.

Legal Department

JRT:kc

# STATE AUDITOR



### Andrea "Andy" Bennett STATE AUDITOR



COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE **COMMISSIONER OF SECURITIES** 

September 2, 1986

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCE

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (0.30) DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HJR44

Broadwater County P. O. Box 489 Townsend, MT .59644

Attn: Judith R. Doggett

County Clerk & Recorder

Re: Our File 8608-08

Canal Insurance Company

We are attaching a photocopy of correspondence we have received from the above captioned insurance company in response to the complaint which you filed with our department.

Our department is not allowed to make determinations of liability or establish damages. This is reserved for the court system.

It would be our recommendation you continue to work through your County Attorney.

We are interested in knowing if in fact the insurance company has made any type of an offer of settlement in this matter. We would appreciate your conveying this information on to us.

We do wish to thank you for the opportunity of allowing our department to check into this matter in your behalf.

Sincerely.

Bob Post

Compliance Specialist Policyholders Services

BP/me

(958-1)

### STATE AUDITOR STATE OF MONTANA



### Andrea "Andy" Bennett STATE AUDITOR

September 17, 1986

COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF SECURITIES

> SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p. 3/

BILL NO. HJ

Broadwater County P. O. Box 489 Townsend, MT 59644

Attn: Judith R. Doggett

County Clerk and Recorder

Re: Our File 8608-08

Canal Insurance Company

We are attaching a photocopy of the latest correspondence we have received from the above captioned insurance company in response to the complaint which you filed with our department.

It is our understanding the company has on several occasions made you an offer of settlement in the amount of \$30,783.55.

As we indicated to you in our last letter of September 2, 1986 it would be our recommendation that you continue to work for your County Attorney concerning this matter.

We are sorry there is nothing further our department can do to assist you in this matter. We again wish to thank you for the opportunity of allowing our department to check into this matter in your behalf.

Sincerely

Bob Post

Compliance Specialist Policyholders Services

BP/me Attach.

(1036-3)

# EQUITABLE ADJUSTMENT COMPANY, INC. POST OFFICE BOX 2023 BILLINGS, MONTANA 59103-2023

(406) 252-5178 24 HOUR

# Multiple Line Adjusters Since 1956

DATE: AUGUST 11, 1986

TO: BROADWATER COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY, JOHN T. FLYNN

POST OFFICE BOX 96

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCE

EXHIBIT NO. 2 p.32)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. 1+5R 44

RE: INSURED:

ALVIN W. MUNNS AND SONS, INC.

POLICY NUMBER:

<u>A5-2865</u>

CO. CLAIM NUMBER: OUR CLAIM NUMBER: L198-50M

DATE OF LOCO.

M552

DATE OF LOSS:

9/10/85

COMPANY:

CANAL INSURANCE COMPANY

DEAR MR. FLYNN:

I HAVE RECEIVED A RESPONSE FROM CANAL INSURANCE COMPANY TO YOUR REQUEST FOR A PRE-PAYMENT OF \$30,783.55 AGAINST YOUR DEMAND FOR DAMAGES AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE ACCIDENT. WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE DEMANDED FROM THE INSURED THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS:

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS.....\$ 4,390.88
BROADWATER COUNTY RURAL FIRE DEPT.....\$ 6,983.00
BROADWATER COUNTY.....\$32,377.43

TOTAL DEMAND.....\$43,751.31

THE CARRIER ADVISES THAT IT IS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE ANY PRE-PAYMENTS AGAINST THE DEMAND AND REITERATES ITS OFFER OF \$30,783.55 AS A COMPROMISED SETTLEMENT OF THE ABOVE DEMAND. IT IS THEIR BELIEF THAT THIS IS A MATTER OF QUESTIONABLE LIABILITY AND THAT THOSE IN CHARGE OF THE CLEANUP OVERREACTED IN THEIR CLEANUP ENDEAVORS.

I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU REVIEW THE FACTS OF THE ACCIDENT AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE RESULTING CLEANUP COSTS, AND CONSIDER THE OFFER.

PLEASE ADVISE AT THE EARLIEST DATE IF THE OFFER IS ACCEPTABLE, SO THAT WE MAY CONTACT THE CARRIER AND GET THE PAYMENT ISSUED PROMPTLY.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COURTESY AND COOPERATION.

VERY RULY YOURS,



JEFF. R. TRULUCK
VICE PRESIDENT
LEGAL

TELEPHONE 803-242-5365

Mr. Bob Post, Compliance Specialists Policy Holder Services Montana Insurance Department P.O. Box 4009 Helena, Montana 59604

Re:

Your File No.:

8608-08

Claimant:

Bradwater County

Acc/Date:

9/10/85

Insured:

Albin W. Munns & Sons, Inc.

Our File No:

L198-507M

Dear Mr. Post:

You requested in your letter of September 2 information as to settlement offers.

We have on numerous occasions made an offer of \$30,783.55.

This is the extent we anticipate offering in a settlement of the claim being pursued by Bradwater County.

Yours very truly,

Legal Department

• ...

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO.  $3(\rho.33)$ 

DAIE 4-8-87

BILL NO\_ HJR 44

JRT/kh

STATE OF MONTANA

### ATTORNEY GENERAL MIKE GREELY

JUSTICE BUILDING, 215 N. SANDERS, HELENA, MONTANA 59620 TELEPHONE (406) 444-2026

5 November 1986

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p.34)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO HOR 44

John T. Flynn
Broadwater County Attorney
Broadwater County Courthouse
Townsend MT 59644

Dear Mr. Flynn:

You have requested my opinion on questions which I have phrased as follows:

- 1. Who is responsible for the cleanup of a hazardous waste spill on a state or federal highway?
- 2. What is the role of a Department of Health official at the scene of an accident involving hazardous materials?
- 3. Who is responsible for pursuing claims for damages resulting from an accident involving the release of hazardous materials?

Sections 75-10-701 to 715, MCA, were enacted by the 1985 Montana Legislature to authorize the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences (the Department) to "take remedial action to prevent or alleviate release of hazardous or deleterious substances into the environment." 1985 Mont. Laws, ch. 711. "Remedial action" includes investigation, monitoring, cleanup, restoration, abatement, removal, replacement, and other actions necessary to respond to a release. \$ 75-10-701(5), MCA.

Your first question may be answered by reference to the statutes. The Department may take remedial action when it determines that there has been a release and "the appropriate remedial action will not be done properly and expeditiously by the owner or operator of the vessel, vehicle, or facility from which the release emanates or by any other responsible party." § 75-10-711(1), MCA. Section 75-10-711(3), MCA, provides:

Any person responsible for the release must take immediate action to contain, remove, and abate the release. Except as provided in John T. Flynn Page 2 5 November 1986 EXHIBIT NO. 3 (2.35)

DATE H-8-87

BILL NO. HJR 44

75-10-712, the department is authorized to draw upon the fund in order to take action under subsections (1) and (2) if it has made diligent good faith efforts to determine the identity of the party or parties responsible for the release or threatened release and:

- (a) is unable to determine the identity of the responsible party or parties in a manner consistent with the need to take timely remedial action; or
- (b) the party or parties determined by the department to be responsible for the release or threatened release have been informed in writing of the department's determination and have been requested by the department to take appropriate remedial action but are unable or unwilling to take such action in a timely manner.

Thus, the persons or parties responsible for the release are primarily responsible for the cleanup. If the Department is unable to determine the identity of the responsible parties, or if the responsible parties are unwilling or unable to take appropriate remedial action following the requisite written notice by the Department, then the Department is authorized to proceed with the cleanup. Note, however, that under certain circumstances the Department may take emergency remedial action without giving the prior written notification required by the statutes. § 75-10-712, MCA.

Your next question concerns the role of a Department official at the scene of an accident involving hazardous or deleterious materials. Specifically, you inquire whether the official serves in an advisory capacity only, or whether he or she is in charge of the cleanup action. Obviously, if the Department takes remedial action, then Department officials at the scene are in charge of the cleanup. As you have pointed out in your letter, however, any cleanup action will necessarily require cooperation between state and local officials.

Your final question may also be answered by reference to the statutes. Section 75-10-715, MCA, provides:

(1) Subject only to the defenses set forth in subsection (4), a party responsible for a release is liable for:

John T. Flynn
Page 3
5 November 1986

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES
EXHIBIT NO. 3 ( p.36)
DATE_ 4-8-87
BILL NO. HJR 44

- (a) all costs of remedial action taken by the department pursuant to this part; and
- (b) damages for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources caused by the release or threatened release.
- (2) If the responsible party fails, without sufficient cause, to properly provide remedial action upon notification by the department pursuant to 75-10-711(3)(b), the responsible party may be liable for punitive damages in an amount not to exceed two times the amount of any costs incurred by the department pursuant to this section.
- (3) The department may initiate civil proceedings in district court to recover costs, damages, or penalties under subsections (1) and (2). Venue for any action to recover costs, damages, or penalties lies in the county where the release occurred or where the responsible party resides or has its principal place of business or in the district court of the first judicial district.
- (4) No party is liable under subsection (1) or (2) if that party can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that:
- (a) the department failed to follow the notice provisions of 75-10-711 when required; or
- (b) the release did not emanate from any vessel, vehicle, or facility over which the party had any authority or control and was not caused by any action or omission of the party; or
- (c) in the case of assessment of punitive damages, that factors beyond the control of the responsible party prevented the party from taking timely remedial action.
- (5) (a) Costs of remedial action recovered pursuant to subsection (1)(a) must be deposited in the fund.
- (b) Damages and penalties recovered pursuant to subsections (1)(b) and (2) must be

John T. Flynn Page 4 5 November 1986

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES
EXHIBIT NO. 3(12.37)
DATE 4-8-87
BILL NO. HJ 1944

deposited in the environmental contingency account within the state special revenue fund established pursuant to 75-1-1101.

Thus, the Department is authorized to pursue claims for damages for "injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources caused by the release." Other parties, however, are not precluded by this statute from seeking recovery for damages resulting from injuries other than to "natural resources."

Very truly yours,

MIKE GREELY

Attorney General

# Broadwater County-

JOHN T. FLYNN BOX 96

TOWNSEND, MONTANA 59644

(406) 266-3444

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p.38)

DATE\_

BILL NO.

November 20, 1986

John Drynan, M.D., Director DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES Cogswell Building Helena, MT 59620

RE: HAZARDOUS WASTE SPILLS - ALVIN W. MUNNS AND SONS, INC.

Dear Dr. Drynan:

As you may be aware, Broadwater County responded to and assisted the Department in taking emergency remedial action for the clean up of a hazardous waste spell that occured on September 10, 1985, on Highway 287. In providing this assistance, Broadwater County incurred approximately \$44,000.00 in expenses.

The insurance carrier for Alvin W. Munns and Sons, Inc., has questioned the amount of this claim. Their objections to the claim result primarily from their questioning of supervisory decisions made at the scene of the accident site. All of these supervisory decisions were made by State Department of Health and Environmental Science officials at the scene.

A recent Opinion by the Attorney General provides that if the Department takes remedial action, then Department officials are in charge of the cleanup action. This Opinion goes on to say that the Department is authorized to pursue claims for all costs of remedial action taken by the Department and damages for injury to, destruction of or loss of natural resources caused by the release. A copy of said Attorney General's Opinion is included for your reference.

It is the position of Broadwater County that the Department by taking remedial action and placing itself in charge of the situation is entirely responsible for paying the costs and

the entity which should seek reimbursement for those damages from the party responsible for the release.

This seems particularly true in light of the fact that the primary objections to the claim for reimbursement stem from decisions made by Department personnel. In effect, the Department is the entity which incurred the costs and not Broadwater County.

We would therefore request that the Department reimburse Broadwater County the sum of \$43,751.37 for remedial action ordered by Department personnel at the accident site and encourage the Department to exercise their authority under Section 75-10-711, MCA, and bring a civil action against the parties responsible for the release of the hazardous materials.

It strikes me that if the Department is going to expect and encourage cooperation from local authorities then the procedure for reimbursement that I have outlined ought to be standard operating procedure for the Department. If the Department is going to take control at a spill site and make decisions which incur costs, then the Department should stand by these decisions by defending them in any claim for damages resulting therefrom.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

Sincerely.

. U

BILL NO.

EXHIBIT NO.

John T. Flynn

BROADWATER COUNTY ATTORNEY

JTF lba Enclosure

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

LEGAL DIVISION



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

COGSWELL BUILDING

## STATE OF MONTANA

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

November 26, 1986

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (0.40)

BILL NO. HJR 44

John T. Flynn
Broadwater County Attorney
Box 96
Townsend, Montana 59644

Dear Mr. Flynn:

In response to your letter of November 20, 1986 I would like to follow-up asking you for some background information.

First, what are the \$44,000.00 in expenses derived from and at whose directive from Broadwater County were these expenses incurred?

Second, has Broadwater County decided not to pursue a claim under the policy issued to Alvin W. Munns and Sons, Inc? If not, why not, especially in light of the Attorney General's Opinion that the "minisuperfund" does not preclude recovery by other injured parties?

Third, is it true that the insurance company for Alvin W. Munns and Sons, Inc. tendered a settlement offer to Broadwater County for \$30,000.00? I'd like more details about the disposition of this offer, if possible, particularly the basis for this amount, the existence of any counter-offers that the County has made, if any, and finally the specific objections to the County's claims for reimbursement put forth by the insurance company. If these are written down, I'd like to see a copy of such objections.

Fourth, I'd like to know the actual basis upon which you are claiming that the Department took the lead in conduct of the clean-up. Which on-the-scene people from the County can I talk to about this to verify your point?

I hope to be able to clarify the points that you raise in your letter as soon as possible so I would appreciate your response to my questions at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

SENATE NATURAL RESOUR

EXH!BIT NO. 3(p.41)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HJR49

DHES Counsel

KJO:cu

cc: Dr. John J. Drynan-William J. Opitz

Vic R. Andersen

### BROADWATER COUNTY SULPHURIC ACID SPILL

The following is a report on the sequence of events which occurred near Townsend on September 10, 1985. This report includes a time scenario, units involved, and a summary of problems. Hopefully, this report will awaken all DES personnel to the complexity and magnitude of activities inherent in any hazardous material spill. DATE: September 10, 1985

A tanker truck and trailer loaded with sulphuric acid traveling south on Highway 12/287 left the right side of the road and overturned in the barrow pit. The tanker began leaking sulphuric acid. The accident was located 1.9 miles North of Townsend.

DAY 1 0220 - Sheriff's Dispatch notified of accident. Deputy responded to the scene.

SENATE NATURAL RESOUR

0224 - Montana Highway Patrol notified.

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p.42)

0336 - DES Coordinator notified.

DATE 4-8-87

0337 - State DES Notified

BILL NO. HJR 44

- 0424 Continental Lime notified.
- 0459 Commissioners notified.
- 5000 2 wreckers arrived at the scene.
- 0701 Fire Department notified.
- 0811 Doctor contacted for information on toxicity.
- 0815 Pup trailer removed to side-road.
- 0837 Requested positive breathing apparatus from Helena. Helena Fire Department furnished filled air bottles for fireman -- Relay was set up for bottles between Helena and accident.
- 0845 Wrecker unable to upright the truck.
- 0956 EOC radios used. Sheriff's dispatch has problems with their radios.
- 11:39 Traffic control established at Missouri River Bridge. Houses near site being checked for exposure to toxic cloud. Railroad shut down.
- 11:55 Notified schools in Townsend to keep children inside school buildings.

- 1304 Called for 60 ton crane.
- 1331 Sheriff's radios removed. All dispatch radio communications through EOC radios.

1525 - Crane began working on wreck.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

2045 - Tanker removed to Continental Lime plant yard.

EXHIBIT NO. 3 ( P.4.3)

DAY 2 September 11, 1985

0740 - Began working spill site to neutralize acid.

1700 - Car wreck on railroad crossing on detour used around acid spill.

Car accident on Missouri River Bridge. 2 kids racing. Ran into Highway Department Truck working on acid spill.

2035 -Highway opened for traffic.

2220 - One(1) man posted at spill site for night.

DAY 3 September 12, 1985

Continued to clean-up

DAY 4 September 13, 1985

Completed the clean-up.

### COST OF CLEAN-UP

Lime \$9,000.00 SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p.44)

BATE 4-8-87

Pump off acid \$2,040.76

Fire Truck Pump \$2,897.00

Trucking \$8,988.20

Telephone Cable \$3,000.00

Crane \$1,500.00

Labor, Equipment, Miscellaneous -- \$15,980.43

TOTAL: \$43,406.39

These costs were submitted to the Insurance Company for reimbursement. They include public and private costs involved in the clean-up of the spill.

### PUBLIC & PRIVATE UNITS INVOLVED

### PUBLIC UNITS:

Broadwater County Commission

Broadwater County DES Coordinator

Broadwater County Sheriff's Department

Broadwater County Road Department

Broadwater County Fire Department

Broadwater County Ambulance Service

Broadwater County Hospital

### Townsend, City of:

Public Works

Fire Department

School District

### Lewis & Clark County:

Sheriff's Department

Fire Department

### PRIVATE UNITS:

Niefer White Company Headwaters Ag. Inc. Berglinds Dept. Store Ray's Horseshoe Cafe Road & Ranch Supply MW GMC Co-op Supply Coast-to-Coast Burlington Northern RR

### SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p.4.5)

DATE 4-8-87

BAL NO. HJK 45

### STATE OF MONTANA

Disaster & Emergency Services

Highway Patrol

Department of Highways

Department of Health & Environmental Sciences

Dick Irvin Trucking Lundy's Market John Belt, M.D. Francisco Pharmacy Mountain Bell E.G. Perry, Inc. Continental Lime, Inc. Townsend Contracting Al Rose Wrecking

### CRITIQUE & SUMMARY

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p.46)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. H JR 4L

The truck accident would have presented no major problem if there had not been hazardous material on board.

The removal of the truck and trailer from the accident scene would have been accomplished easily and quickly if the wrecker company had been capable. The failure to call for equipment large enough to perform the task resulted in an extreme delay for crews to clean-up the acid spill. Each hour of delay increased the chance of injury to emergency responders.

Even with the delay, the truck was removed before the end of the first day. The clean-up of the spill required three(3) more days. The length of time necessary to remove the danger in a hazardous material spill is a key element which requires detailed planning prior to such an accident.

Three(3) glaring deficiencies were evident in the response to this incident:

### a) No Incident Commander.

During the entire incident, there was no designated person or group of persons who retained control of all of the actions both on-site and throughout the affected area. If the chief of one department had directed all response activities, the time for truck removal and clean-up could have been reduced considerably. Decisions could have been made quickly and response actions would have been conducted in a safer manner. Suitable resources and equipment could have been ordered to attack the situation immediately with much less delay.

### b) No Responsible Jurisdiction Identified.

Broadwater County accepted responsibility for the truck removal and acid clean-up. However, many questions of where jurisdictional responsibility for both of these actions really lies. State Law seems to conflict in this area. The State Highway Department is charged with control of State and Federal Highway Right-of-Ways. The Highway Department is the only one who can close these highways for any purpose. Law enforcement can close these highways temporarily for a traffic hazard, but this authority ends when the Highway Department arrives. This law would seem to leave the overall control of a hazardous material incident on a state or federal highway to the Highway Department. This did not happen in Townsend.

Another law charges the State Health and Environmental Sciences Department with responsibility for all hazardous material clean-up anywhere in the state. Although Health Department personnel provided advice, their role was not one of command during the incident. Again the major burden of the clean-up fell to county personnel. Throughout the incident, there were many examples of breach of site security. No law enforcement agency provided solid security on the site during the entire phase of operations. The State Highway Patrol believed its responsibility ended when the wrecked truck was removed from the site.

The County Sheriff's Department did not have the manpower to secure the site and continue normal duties throughout the rest of the county during the four (4) days of clean-up activity. Highway Department personnel and local county personnel performed flagman duties and traffic control on the detour. There was no security at the site during the clean-up operations. Personnel from various agencies wandered in and out of the area without restriction. No effort was made to identify personnel entering the site. Incidents occurred at the site and at flagman positions which could have endangered lives. The presence of law enforcement personnel could have prevented these incidents from occurring.

### **CONCLUSIONS:**

The jurisdictional responsibility for Hazardous Material Incidents on State and Federal Highways must be more clearly defined in State Law.

The establishment of an inter-agency incident management system at the State level with authority to command and direct operations is imperative.

Law enforcement must be charged with the responsibility for site security. The Montana Highway Patrol and local law enforcement must work together to provide the manpower to provide traffic control and site security.

The individuals who did respond performed admirably in the absence of an organizational structure and limited resources. There was excellent cooperation between private companies and public responders.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p.47)

DATE 4-8-87

PULL NO. 47 TB 4/11

# Wreck response good

By ERIC WILLIAMS
IR Staff Writer

Local and state officials gave each other a strong pat on the back today for the response to Tuesday's truck accident and sulfuric acid spill near Townsend.

Bill Potts, of the state Solid Waste Management Bureau said a network to respond to such accidents worked well, and said much of the credit should go to local Ray Doggett, disaster coordinator for the Townsend area, along with two area businesses.

Potts said quick, vital assistance was given by both Headwaters Ag Supply, a Townsend fertilizer company, and Continental Lime, a local lime plant.

A semi truck with two trailers loaded with toxic sulfuric acid went off Highway 12 about two miles north of Townsend at 2:15 Tuesday morning, and Potts was called at 3 a.m. to get the wheels rolling on the state's emergency spills response program.

Dan Lieberg, of Disaster and Emergency Services, said the response system is basically a communications network between six agencies to coordinate their efforts.

He said his office serves as a clearinghouse that takes the information on the spill and then contacts the appropriate agencies that should respond.

Lieberg said the state Department of Health and Environmental Sciences generally will handle most of the calls, but added that the Agri-

# Highway reopens

The short stretch of Highway 12 which was closed while the sulfuric acid spilled in Tuesday's accident was controlled opened late Tuesday evening, the Highway Patrol said.

Lime was dumped on the acid to neutralize it, but Dick Pederson of the Department of Health and Environmental Science, said today that his office is still looking at the spill to make sure there is no threat to surface water.

Bill Potts, of the state Solid Waste Management Bureau, said the lime will be mixed into the acid some more, and when a safe pH level is attained, the mixture will be hauled to a certified landfill.

Meanwhile, Dean Wykle, the 36-year-old driver of the truck, was released from the Broadwater Community Hospital to return to his St. Anthony, Idaho, home and the care of his own doctor.

He reportedly received a compressed vertebra in the accident, but no one was injured by the toxic acid.

cuture, Fish Wildlife and Parks and the Justice departments are also often called on to help.

But it was the private, local businesses that seemed to impress officials the most in cleaning up the acid spill.

Lieberg and Potts said people from Continental Lime and Headwaters Ag supplied expertise on the proper and safe way to handle the acid, which can burn humans if touched directly or if inhaled.

He said the businesses supplied not only a "working knowledge" of handling the acid, but also chipped in with lime and heavy equipment needed in the cleanup.

Nearly 50 tons of lime was: brought in by dumptrucks to neutralize the acid.

Leiberg also said he was impressed with the reaction of local officials, particularly the Broadwater Volunteer firemen and Broadwater County Sheriff's officials who were also on the scene.

Dick Pederson, of the Department of Health and Environmental Science, said the network is a bigaid because no one can really plan on when and where the accidents may happen.

He added that no two spills are alike, and they take a lot of time in controlling, cleaning up and followup work to make sure the area is safe afterwards.

He said, "people kind of jell when this kind of thing happens," adding that officials recognize the gravity of the situations and usually "handle them in a professional and reasonable manner."

SENATE WATURAL RESOURCES	
EXHIBIT NO 3 (p.48)	
DATE 4-8-81	-
ALL NO HONAT	-

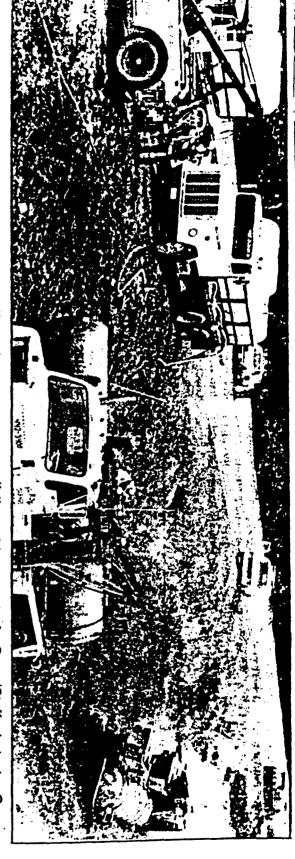
SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 ( p. 49)

DATE 4-8-87

RILL NO. HJ R 44

side (far right), while the clean-The tractor-trailer rig lies on its the acid into other trucks. By noon, all the acid was out of the smaller unit. Story on Page One. (Staff photo by George Lane)



### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

COGSWELL BUILDING

## STATE OF MONTANA

Solid & Hazardous Waste Bureau Telephone: 406-444-2821

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

September 30, 1985

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (12.50)

DATE 4-8-87

RILL NO. HT & 44

Board of Co. Commissioners Broadwater County County Courthouse Townsend, MT 59644

Dear Commissioners:

This office would like to thank you, your organization, and employees for assisting during the recent acid spill north of Townsend. Your expertise and equipment were invaluable in quickly controlling the incident. If it had not been there to help, the situation would have lasted much longer and, of course, increased the potential health risk to the public.

As far as we know, there wasn't a single illness or injury associated with the spill; and in our book that qualifies as a super success.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

DUANE L. ROBERTSON, CHIEF

Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau

DLR: VRA: ao

varutans & graphics

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

COGSWELL BUILDING

### STATE OF MONTANA:

Solid & Hazardous Waste Bureau Telephone: 406-444-2821

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

September 30, 1985

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p. 51)

DATE 4-8-87

BILL NO. HJ R 44

Mr. Ray Doggett
Disaster & Emergency Services
Coordinator
Townsend, MT 59644

Dear Mr. Doggett:

This office would like to thank you for assisting during the recent acid spill north of Townsend. Your expertise was invaluable in quickly controlling the incident. If you had not been there to help, the situation would have lasted much longer and, of course, increased the potential health risk to the public.

As far as we know, there wasn't a single illness or injury associated with the spill; and in our book that qualifies as a super success.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

DUANE L. ROBERTSON, CHIEF

Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau

DLR: VRA: ao

# SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES cid spill shuts off Highway 12

By ERIC WILLIAMS

of sulfuric acid went off Highway 12 IR Staff Writer A semi truck with two trailers full

3

driver suffered mild injuries in the the borrow pit. No one has been inway until sometime this evening.

The trailer tanks spilled acid into jured by the spilled acid, but the early this morning, closing the highabout two miles north of Townsend

EXHIBIT NO.

deep ditch at about 2:15 a.m. today

said the truck slid into the 20-footthe acid at the ASARCO plant in by Dean Allen Wykle, 36, of St. Anw.reck thony, Idaho, who had loaded it with Riddle said the truck was driven Highway Patrolman Jim Riddle

> compressed vertebra. He is in stamunity Hospital in Townsend with a passing trucker to Broadwater Com-Riddle said Wykle was taken by a

# See photo on Page 1B

ble condition

claimed his headlights had gone out and he missed a corner 1.9 miles The patrolman said the driver

Workers from Continental Lime and Headwaters Ag Supply of Town-send helped Broadwater Volunteer to maintain control of the leaking from Townsend Several crews worked diligently

East Helena earlier in the morning. firemen pump the acid — that was

acid to neutralize it.

until late this afternoon. They expected the cleanup to take

Motorists on Highway 12 were

in simply driving by the leaking acid, but traffic was detoured to give crews space needed to clean up

still in the tank trailers - into spare

by the dumptruck load to pour on the They also were bringing in lime

detour starting about a mile to both rerouted on county roads, with the the north and the south of the acci-Riddle said there was no danger

(More on ACID, back page)



overturned trailer. Fireman stands by in breathing aparatus as others empty

# Continued from Page 1A

would be nearly impossible to clean water or a bridge, adding that it that the truck didn't wreck near Oakley said it is "very fortunate" the mess. Broadwater County Deputy L. W

equipment readily available. plant which could make the lime and up the acid if it were in water. where there is a fertilizer and a lime accident happened near Townsend, Lime, also said it was luck that the Elton Chorney, of Continental

holds about 1,400 gallons of the sulour parts of time to bring one part uric acid, and Chorney said it takes Workers at the site said the truck

ζ,

neutralize the acid. much of the acid had leaked from of the acid to a safe pH level take about 40 to 60 tons of lime to the tanks, but one worker said it will No one was sure exactly

cloud billowing into the air strong chemical reaction, making a dumped on the acid, there was a popping sound and sending a white Chorney said the rising furnes are

the lumes from the sulfuric acid itdangerous, but not nearly as toxic as Broadwater firemen and workers

ing in the tanks.
They also wore special air masks

Each time a new load of time was

pumps to draw out the acid remainfrom Headwaters Ag dressed in rubthe truck, where they hooked up ber boots and clothes to go down to

how to breathe safely.

sending out more toxic fumes sulfuric acid will react and boil. wasn't raining, because water and said it was also fortunate that it Gary Munyan, of Headwaters Ag.

fertilizers, adding that this particular load was bound for Idaho, where it would have been used on potato Munyan said the acid is used in

Riddle said. Munns and Sons, Rexburg, Idaho, The truck is owned by Alvin W

The highway is expected to be closed until the truck is uprighted by wrecker trucks, probably late this aiternoon or evening

rinsed down before they are taken to The truck and trailers will then be

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES EXHIBIT NO. 3 ( p. 53) DATE\_4-8-87

# - Thursday, September 19, 1985-7 THANK YOU

I would like to express my thanks to the Townsend Volunteer Fire Department, Broadwater Rural Fire Department, Sheriff's Department, EMT's, Broadwater County Road Dept., State Highway Dept., Highway Patrol, Burlington Northern Railroad, Headwaters Ag Supply, Inc., Dick Irving Trucking, Perry Construction and a special thank you to Elton Chorney and Dennis Zindell from Continental Lime for their help during the recent acid spill. Thank you also for the use of signs and supplies from B&B Wrecker Service and the Townsend Body Shop and the Horseshoe Cafe and Commercial for feeding workers and to the residents of Broadwater County for their patience and cooperation during the cleanup process.

Ray Doggett, DES Coordinator Broadwater County Commissioners

# Accident Causes Alert In Townsend

Traffic was still being re-routed on Although state personnes didn't Hwy 287 north of Townsend, Wedl think there was any immediate danger nesday morning following a traffic accident early Tuesday that caused the will of approximately 1300 gallons of sulphuric acid. Department of Highway personnel, county crowd from the precention of warning people living in the precent of the spill to leave their boilers and local firefined worked during the officials and local firefined worked during at the officials and local firefined worked during a track of the spill that lay in the borrow pit on the pull that lay in the borrow pit on the pull that lay in the borrow pit on the north side of the three bridge.

The accident 1.9 miles north of the spill that spill that lay in the spill that lay in the fiver bridge.

The accident 1.9 miles north of the spill that spill that spill that spill that spill that spill that lay in the spill that lay in the spill that lay in the borrow pit on the fiver bridge.

When a lay the spill that spill that spill the spill that spill the spill that spill the spill that lay in the borrow pit on the fiver bridge.

When a lay the spill that lay in the spill that spill the spill that lay in the borrow pit on the fiver bridge.

When a lay the spill that spill that spill the spill that spill the spill to leave their borrow pit on the properties of the spill to leave their borrow pit on the properties of the spill to leave their borrow pit on the properties of the spill to leave their borrow pit on the properties of the spill to leave their borrow pit on the properties of the spill to leave their borrow pit on the properties of the spill to leave their borrow pit on the properties of the spill to leave their borrow pit on the properties of the spill to leave their borrow pit on the properties of the pit of the pi out as he neared a curve in that portion of the roadway. Wylke said he braked for a short distance and then the rig went off the right side of the highway. Although he droverations the shoulder for some distance trying to bring the truth onto the highway, he ornig the truct onto the highway, he reached a portion where the disch alding the highway was too steen and the sent and both frailers lipped over Wylterway thous from the truck. He was picked up by another fruncket and taken to Broadbater Community Hospital from where he reported the accident. The mishap obsured about 2:15 sim Wylte was spifflound at the time of the accident. the time of the accident.
Highway patrolman Jim Riddle and
Deputy Rich Thompson responded to the accident call. Riddle spoke with Wylke about the danger before heading to the scene and upon learning of the corrosive cargo, Riddle contacted the Disaster Emergency Services in Heleria and local Civil Defense man Ray Doggett, Al Rose Wrecker, Helena was also summoned Fortunately, lime is used to neutralize sulturic acid, and Contin-ental Limb was called into action hauling many loads of time to dilute the corrosive material. City and furth firemen also responded with water for cleanup purposes and Headwaters Ag of Townsend came in with tankers to pump the remaining acid from the tanker. Workers were forced to wear stood by in case of burns or chemical respirator gears while working since, reactions que to the soid, the civil toxic cloud formations result. See the deputies of their working efforts; the deputies for their

frontage food south of the forldent

Though the highway was opened at Though the highway was opened at 9:35 Tuesday night, the highway department sent a security guard to watch over the light to instruct a passensy stopped and walked over in the scene since all comosive chemicals had not been completely neutralized. The mop-try operations Wednesday were expected in scholated the madely and the conditions of the conditions were supposed. to recipie the roadway for an additional four hours or more.

Wylks suffered a compressed

vertebrae during the accident and was treased at Broadwitter Community Hospital before being relabled to go home togeomath his pwa physician. Before life left however, he had been cited by Pitrolman Riddle for operaing the semi without his driver a log book licing current shid for fallshe to flatting yallid, medical, contribute in comments.

According Riddle had high praise for the idea from Continental Lime who were aware of chemical reper-

cussions and knew how to handle the situation with fine; the quick re-sponse of Dave Shearer, Gary Munyan, his Spatr and Scott Evans of Headwaters Ag for their ability to remove the toxic chemical so efficiently; the firemen for their capable assistance: the ambufance crew who Possible lung injuries could have assistance and to everythe who made resulted from inhalation of the transposition of the resulted from inhalation of the transposition of the resulted from inhalation of the transposition of the resulted from inhalation of the resulted from t

## THANK YOU

I would like to thank my fellow firemen Tom Webb and Bill Webb who acted very quickly and fast and hosed me down with water when I was hurned with sulphuric acid last Wednesday evening on my shoulder and leg. Also a big thanks to Ray Doggett who drove me very quickly to the hospital, and also thanks to the nurses at the hospital who treated me. Also thanks to everyone else who helped me that evening. All of your help was greatly appreciated.

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES EXHIBIT NO. 3 ( p 54)

# Official has praise for response to sulfuric acid spill by Townsend

HELENA (AP) - The network set up to respond to potentially dangerous chemical spills worked well in responding to the sulfuric acid spill Tuesday near Townsend, a state official said Wednesday.

Bill Potts of the state Solid Waste Management Bureau said much of the credit for the initial response, however, should go to Ray Doggett, disaster coordinator for the Townsend area, along with two area businesses.

Potts said quick, vital assistance was given by both Headwaters Ag Supply, a Townsend fertilizer company, and Continental Lime, a nearby lime plant.

A semi truck with two trailers loaded with toxic sulfuric acid went off U.S. 12 about two miles north of

Townsend early Tuesday. Potts was called at 3 a.m. to get the wheels rolling on the state's emergency spills

response program.

Dan Lieberg, of Disaster and Emergency Services, said the response system is basically a commuications network between six agencies to coordinate their efforts.

He said his office serves as a clearinghouse that takes the information on the spill and then contacts the appropriate agencies that should respond.

Lieberg and Potts said people from Continental Lime and Headwaters Ag supplied expertise on the proper and safe way to handle the acid, which can burn humans if touched directly or if inhaled,

He said the businesses supplied

not only a "working knowledge" of handling the acid, but also chipped in with lime and heavy equipment needed in the cleanup

Nearly 50 tons of lime was brought in by dumptrucks to neutralize the acid.

The short stretch of highway closed while the sulfuric acid was cleaned up was reopened Tuesday evening, the Highway Patrol said.

Various officials continued to monitor the spill site Wednesday making sure there was no threat to surface water.

The lime is being mixed into the acid some more, and when a safe pH level is attained, the mixture will be hauled to a certified landfill.

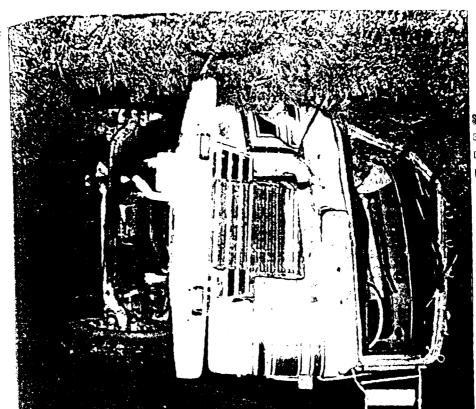
Toxic clouds arise from the mixture of lime, which had been shoveled onto the sulphuric acid spilled north of Townsend early Tuesday morning, the result of a semi tractor/trailer accident. Highway 287 was barricaded and traffic was detoured all day Tuesday and again Wednesday morning. About 1300 gallons of the acid was spilled and many loads of lime from Continuous literature based on the second second literature and second s Continental lime was hauled to dilute and neutralize the chemical

8 — Thursday, September 12, 1985 — The Townsend Star

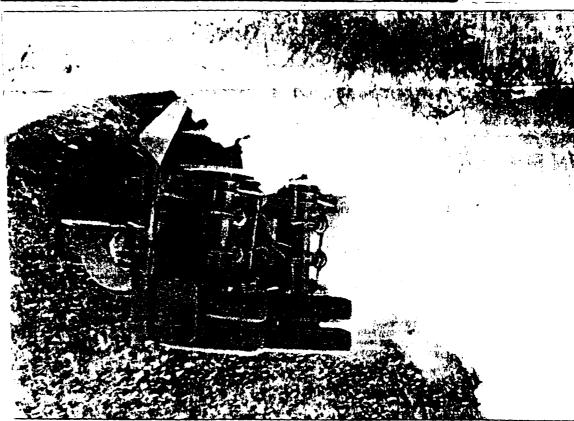
Fortunately no one was injured from the overturn of a Semi loaded with Sulphuric Acid Early Tuesday morning. Alot of manpower went into the cleanup of the area which was barricaded off 2 miles North of Townsend on HWY 287. Top, the semi lay in pools of Sulphuric Acid in the barrow pit as wreckers and state workers prepare in background for cleanup, top right, the accident recieved alot of attention from the proper







SENATE NATURAL RESOU ETHIBIT NO. 3 (p.56) DATE 4-8-87 BILL NO. HJR44



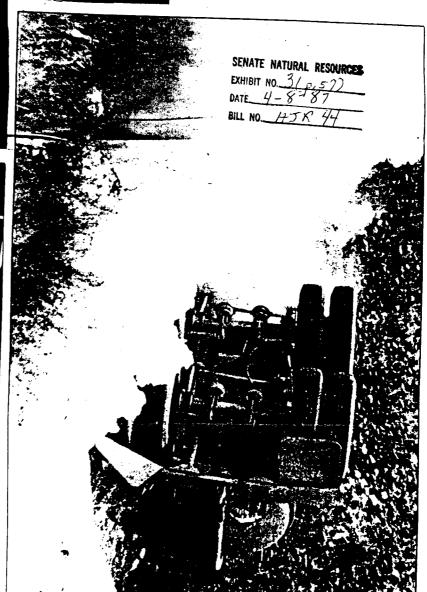




over. Bottom, the driver of the semi wasn't hurt as he reported the lights shorted out on the rig to cause the own fertilizer trucks before the semi could be turned and pumped the acid from the semi's tanks into thier also were very helpful with thier knowlege of the acid clouds. Owners of Headwaters Ag Supply of Townsend stand by as MTN news films the wreckage. Bottom was used the dilute the acid and formed toxic white right, Lime donated by Continental Lime of Townsend authorities as well as news media, here policemen the accident recieved alot of attention from the proper workers prepare in background for cleanup. top right, Sulphuric Acid in the barrow pit as wreckers and state the area which was barricaded off 2 miles North of morning. Alot of manpower went into the cleanup of a Semi loaded with Sulphuric Acid Early Tuesday Townsend on HWY 287. Top, the semi lay in pools of Fortunately no one was injured from the overturn of

Mike Tichenor Photos





125 SPM ON 17 665 UNIT 736 858 tinn 3 to2 Scott 125 gel P/M Portable fump 30 A: 2/2 tow pompy-touter 946 + 1MD 12 ton CATEGORY OF WORK: PROJECT APPLICATION NO .: ンななら N.W. OF Scott SCBA CEPTION ALL Ser De March 18 11 11 15 14 30 min. u TYPE OF EQUIPMENT u Class A Rumper CBA TANKEY PUMPOY BA MINI PUMPER Portable pump 1000 sal. Portable gump 750 gal UN:+ 5.7 358 Aux - P OK CK F. P. EQUIP. NO. REFERENCE UniT 828 ENATE NATURAL XHIEIT NO. 3 77. 736 RESOURCES 87 7 100 5/8 1/10 130 % 1/2 6  $\tilde{s}$ 5/2 3/2 4 1/2 9/2 12/2 179 0 9/3 13/3 137 1/3 1/2 6 6 6 6 LOCATION: FORCE ACCOUNT HOURS USED EACH DAY Brownate Juston I'm of Print 190 JAL 36/ 5. DATE I I I 1 PAGE TIME PERIOD: JOB SITE NO.: 16 19 35 TOTAL HRS. 94 Q 46 5 19 0 6 0 14 7 \$ 35.00 20.00 2000 5.00 5.00 10.00 18.00 RATE 5.80 5,44 ڻ. 8 PAGES 500 1100 TOTAL 5 8 10 120

SENATE **EXHIBIT** DATE\_ BILL NO.

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TIME PERIOD9/10/85 l OF I

LOCATIONCID SPILL HIGHWAY 287 TOWNSEND, MT JOB SITE NO.:

9/13/85

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CATEGORY OF WORK: \_

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PROJECT APPLICATION NO .: \_

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Unit Tl	/10/85	18.5	50.00		925.00	Headwaters Ag., Inc.	112	9/30/85	925.00
Unit T3	/10/85	17.0	40.00		714.00	Headwaters Ag., Inc.	112	9/30/85	714.00
Unit P2	/10/85	18.5	20.00		305.00	Headwaters Ag., Inc.	112	9/30/85	00.20
Unit P6	/10/85	6.00	20.00		120.00	HeadwatersAg., Inc.	112	9/30/85	120.00
Clark 175 B 9	/10/85	12.00		70.00	840.00	Continental Lime, Inc.	114	9/30/85	840.00
Water Truck	/11/85	4.0	30.00		120.00	Townsend Contracting	83	9/30/85	120.00
Rerouting Cable (	0/10/85				207. 00	Komatoda Boll Tolosloso	s a	10/21/05	2017 00
ble	on stanes	5.5	150.00	:	724.50 825.00	E.G. Perry, Inc.	100	9/30/85	1549.50
Insbey 11 cy Dragi	112/85	6.0 .	25.00		300.00	E.G. Perry, Inc.	100	9/30/85	300.00
Transport Truck 9	9/13/85				150.00	E.G. Perry, Inc.	100	9/30/85	150.00
Dragline	9/13/85	8.0	150.00		1200.00	E.G. Perry, Inc.	100	9/30/85	1200.00
Teardown Time	9/ 13/85	3.0	25.00		150.00	E.G. Perry, Inc.	100	9/30/85	150.00
City Water Tankers	10/85	6.0	38.00		210.00	City of Townsend	4 1	11/18/85	210.00
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5029	364.00	9/30/85	107	Dick Irvin Trucking	364.00		52.00	7	9/12/85	Truck
5029	520.00	9/30/85	107	Dick Irvin Trucking	520.00		52.00	10	9/10/85	Truck
5029	208.00	9/30/85	231	Dick Irvin Trucking	208.00		52.00	4	9/13/85	Truck
3957	160.00	11/18/85	4	City of Townsend	160.00		40.00	4	9/10/85	City Fire Truck
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William E. Duede Reimburse	gas	llmi	20.5	2.26	10/8/85	5084	.0/8/85	105	-
Replace at acid	water cooler used spill site	1	27.49	27.49	9/19/85	4900	/10/85 /13/85	9	
leadwater Ag. Inc. replace	30'of 2" hose	1	1.39	41.70	9/10/85	5034	/10/85	112	
leadwater Ag. Inc. replace	2" female quick coupler	2	6.40	12.80	9/10/85	5034	110/85	112	
leadwater Ag. Inc. replace 2"	2" male quick coupler	2	4.38	8.76	9/10/85	5034	/10/85		
leadwater Ag. Inc. Fire Ex	Extinguisher Refill	2	15.00	30.00	9/10/85	5034	10/85	112	
Reimburse Reimburse	mileage Coordinator	300	22.5	67.50	9/13/85	8767	9/10/85 9/13/85	81	
Judy Doggett Reimburse	se mileage Delivery of Meals	50	20.5	10.25	9/13/85	4972	/12/85	* 85 85	
\aymond Doggett Reimburse	se Meals		8.45	8.45	9/10/85	4948	7.10/85	80	
erglind's Dept Store Replace	overshoes (eaten by		16.98	16.98	9/20/85	6767	9/11/85	<b>φ</b>	

TOTAL PRICE 268.29

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EXHIBIT NO. 3 (p-61)
DATE 4-8-87

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PROJECT APPLICATION NO .: \_

ACID SPILL HIGHWAY 287 Townsend - Hontana 19

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Ray's Horseshoe Cafe	Meals for workers	,	116.55	116.55	9/10/85 9/11/85	5094	9/10/85 9/11/85	129	
Lewis & Clark Co.	02	52 gal	1.0305	53.57	<b>3</b> /12/85	3950	3/19/85	108	
Road & Ranch Supply	Emergency Warning Lights	ω	40.24	120.72	9/13/85	5120	9/10/85 9/13/85	50	ψ.
MW GMC	Replace H20 pump in county		2897.00	2897.00	9/19/85	5124	9/12/85	164	
Co-Op Supply	Replace rain pants, coat & gloves		32.12	32.12	32 12 9/12/85	SOSO	0/12/95	<b>.</b>	
Coast to Coast	011	12	.0.65	7.80	9/11/85	5049	9/11785	7	
Coast to Coast	011	6	0.65	3.90	9/13/85	5049	9/13/85	7	
Dick Irvin Trucking	Lime	138.28	65.00	8988.20	9/10/85 9/13/85	5029	9/10/85 9/13/85	107	
Lundy's Market	Food and supplies for workers		45.56	45.56	9/10/85 9/13/85	4895	9/10/85 9/13/85	208	
John A. Belt, M.D.	H20S04 Burn (Tom Webb)		198.80	198.80	9/12/85 9/14/85	4970	\$\\17785	210	
John A. Belt, M.D.	H2SO4 Burn (Bob Hossfeld)		36.00	36.00	9/12/85	4970	9/12/85	233	
Broadwater Hospital	H2SO4 Burn (Bob Hossfeld)		44.57	44.57	9/11/85	5006	9/11/85	229	
2		70	TOTAL PRICE	12544.79					

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9/10/85	5163 9/1	60.00 9/10/85	60.0	60.00		Ambulance H2SO4 Burn (Webb)	Broadwater Ambulance
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Dump Truck 10 cy	<b>‡</b> 2	12 8 8	8	4			Andrew St		21 .00	672.00
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Pickup 3/4 ton	<b>#3</b>	14.5 13.5	8					349	.00 2	216.00
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SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES

EXHIBIT NO. 4

DATE 4-9-87

ADDRESS BUTTE MT

BILL NO. #JR 4-111 No. H. R. -44

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT MONT RAIL MUIONS (BRAC Bridge)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments: Mont. Rail Union's Support HUR 44

AN INCREASE OF HAZERDOUS Commodity Shipments

BY Rail Supports a hour to a in

an increase of HAZORDOUS Commodity Shipments
By Rail Supports a hegishative Interim
Study Committee dealing with Catastrophic
Events That Could occurr RESULATING from
RailRoad accidents OR derailments

RECENTLY Butte-Silver Bow aren was Confronted with a Lenky Tank Car of Caustie Soda. Police and fire departments were Summoned to the Rural Hambet of Silver Bow. In An Attempt To Contain the Leak, a RR Toll free Number was not immediately available of the incident Occurred on a Sunday. Fire fighters used Sand Bag Contain Ment.

auniform Method dealing with Hazardous Commodifies Shippied by Rail-without Calling RR Toll free Number will Enhance preventing Cata Strophic Events IN RR accidents and DeRailment.

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# **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

	April 3	19 37
MR. PRESIDENT		
We, your committee on NATURAL RESOURCES		
having had under consideration. GOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION	)Li	No
THIRD reading copy ( ) color		
REQUESTING STUDY OF PROBLEMS OF HAZ INCIDENTS	iardous Materials	3
PAVLOVICH (LYHCH)		
Respectfully report as follows: That HOUSE JOINT RESOLU	TION	No.

BE CONCURRED IN

DU PASS

DO NOT PASS

SEMATOR TOM REATING,

Chairman.