

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Area agencies respond to tractor-trailer accident and oil spill at Hwy. 7

Southbound ramp to I-25 shut down for hours as crews clean up gallons of crude oil

Broomfield, CO—North Metro Fire Rescue District and multiple agencies responded to a tractor-trailer accident this morning on the southbound ramp to I-25 from Highway 7. Crude oil that spilled from the overturned semitrailer caused the on-ramp to be shut down for hours as crews cleaned up the area.

The call came in at 7:40 a.m. from a passerby who saw the overturned truck. The driver of the truck was transported to a local hospital, but no other vehicles or residents were involved. Crews from North Metro Fire, Broomfield Police Department and Colorado Department of Transportation worked to contain the crude oil spill while minimizing the impact to traffic flow. Mountain View Fire Protection District also had an engine on scene.

All lanes of Highway 7, from the northbound exit ramp of I-25 to Huron, were temporarily shut down as well as the southbound exit and on-ramp of I-25 at Highway 7 as North Metro firefighters worked to plug the leak and contain the spill from spreading further. Approximately 4,000 gallons were estimated to have spilled from the semitrailer. A private environmental services company was called in to help assess the area and to clean up the remaining hazardous material.

Once crews had plugged the leak, another semitrailer was brought in to transfer the remaining crude oil from the overturned semitrailer. Heavy-duty tow trucks were then used to upright the truck and tow it from the scene. Dirt was also brought in to aid in the containment and cleanup process. The on-ramp was shut down into the afternoon, but all other roadways and ramps were reopened by late morning.

The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

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North Metro Fire Rescue District

North Metro Fire Rescue District is dedicated to providing quality service to its residents through fire protection, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response and specialized rescue. Formed in 1946, the district now covers 63 square miles with a population of approximately 111,000 people including the City and County of Broomfield, the City of Northglenn and unincorporated areas of Boulder, Adams, Weld and Jefferson Counties.