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Overview

This method statement is by necessity generic and provides guidance for the approach to the remediation of unplanned spills of biofuel.

Each spill should be assessed and treated independently, taking into consideration the particular characteristics of the spill site, all of which will be unique.

Regulators should be notified immediately.

Method Statement for Dealing with Spilled Biofuel

This generic method statement should be adapted in conjunction with, and after development of, a site-specific risk assessment (sample attached).

- Ensure appropriate PPE is available, as a minimum; boots, goggles, gloves, hi-vis and hard hat.
- Once a spill has been identified, confirm whether the spill has stopped and if not, attempt to arrest the leak.
- Establish whether the spill has impacted any sensitive receptors such as open water courses/ drains/etc. If oil is present in an open water course, take immediate action as detailed below.
 - Try to establish an approximate quantity of oil spilled and whether sudden and unexpected or a 'slow release', longer term spill.
 - Inspect source site and confirm any visual surface extent of leak, stains on soil or hardstanding etc.
 - Deploy absorbent booms/pads to open water or standing bodies of product.
 - Thin layers of product on hardstanding should be treated with absorbent granules.
 - Depending upon the spill site, consideration should be given to determining the possible spread of oil through the soils to groundwater.
 - Consider intrusive site investigation to establish possible extent of spread of oil.
- Spent absorbent boom/pads/granules and any recovered bulk oil should be stored immediately in suitable sealed containers for appropriate disposal off site in accordance with relevant legislation, not stored temporarily on site where possible leakage could occur.