## 5000 Gattis School Rd (H-E-B), Hutto, TX June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018

On Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 1422, I (Hazmat 2), received a call from Williamson County Emergency Communications (WCEC) about a large fuel spill at the H-E-B in Hutto, Hutto FD was requesting a phone call. I contacted Lt Neal from Hutto FD on scene at 5000 Gattis School Rd, the H-E-B gas station, advising there was a very large diesel spill that started at one of the pumps, ran through the parking lot of H-E-B and went out onto Gattis School Rd. He advised that the vehicle that caused the spill fled the scene and that a large clean-up was needed. I advised him to work on getting the spill contained from any drains and to get it blocked off to stop vehicles and/or people from getting in it. I went enroute at 1426, I also contacted Hazmat 3 (Trenton Hernandez) to notify him to be enroute and HM1 (Marty Herrin) just as an FYI, Hazmat 3 went enroute at 1438 and arrived at 1503.

I arrived on scene at 1435 and made contact with Lt. Neal with Hutto FD in front of the main store to get an update on the situation. There was a significant spill in front of the main store where the vehicle appeared to stop for a minute while leaking fuel, Hutto FD had used absorbent to block the fuel from getting into a storm drain (See Photo).





I advised Command (Lt Neal) to get with the manager of H-E-B to see if they have a contract with an environmental clean-up company so that we could get someone on the way to assist with cleanup. Williamson County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) along with Hutto PD worked on shutting down the affected lanes of the road to keep vehicles from driving through the spill while Hutto FD and H-E-B employees used cones and shopping carts to get the spill blocked off in the parking lot. One of the WCSO deputies advised the spill went out onto Gattis School Rd, turned right onto Winterfield and then made a few other turns into a neighborhood. But that Gattis School and Winterfield Dr were the 2 roads that were bad. Hutto Engine 2 went to follow the trail into the neighborhood along with WCSO to see where it stopped and if they could find a vehicle. Myself, Hazmat 3 and Command met with the manager at the gas station to look at

security video to try and get a make on the vehicle and see what happened. (See photos, first 2 are H-E-B parking lot and next 2 are the roadways)



The video showed a newer model, Red Ford F-250 or F-350, short bed truck getting diesel at pump #1 at 13:47 and driving away at 13:57 appearing to be spilling fuel. The cameras in front of the main store showed the truck driving by obviously spilling fuel. (See Photos)



The store manager advised that CG environmental was the clean-up company that H-E-B used for clean ups and that they were enroute. Hutto Engine 2 called to advise that the fuel trail faded away and ended on Amistad Dr. and no vehicle fitting the description was in the area. Multiple units checked the area and were unable to locate the vehicle. I contacted Hazmat 1 to advise him that we had a large spill on County owned roads that required a large cleanup with no responsible party to pay. He advised me to send an email with documentation of the situation and an estimate from the clean-up company and he would work on approval to use County funds to pay for the roadway clean-up.

WCEC advised command that they received reports of a fuel spill in the Star Ranch Pool parking lot that was at the intersection of Gattis School Rd and Winterfield Dr. Myself, Hazmat 3 and Command went to investigate and found that the vehicle leaking fuel had pulled into the parking lot, parked off the pavement on dirt then turned around and left the parking lot covering it with fuel as well. The pool gate had a sign that said to contact Goodwin Management for any

incidents at the pool, so I called and left a message for them to contact me to arrange for clean-up of their property. (See Photos)





CG Environmental arrived on scene around 1645 and began assessing the spill to give us an estimate for the clean-up. At 1730 I emailed the following estimate to Hazmat 1 for approval. The hope was to get the clean up done in 8 hours, but it was hard to determine how long it would take. This estimate was only for the clean up of the County owned roads, not the H-E-B property or the Star Ranch Pool Property.

CG deck truck 205 per hour: 1640.00 2 CG Spill techs 95.00 p/h 1520.00 Disposal 1200 g diesel water 1.25/g 1500.00 Environmental Recovery charge: 698.00

Total 5358.00

While waiting on the clean up crew, WCSO called Williamson County Road and Bridge to bring cones out to block off Gattis School Rd and Winterfield so some of the WCSO and Hutto PD officers could be freed up. Road and Bridge arrived and set out cones to block off the outside lane of Gattis School Rd from the H-E-B entrance/exit down to Winterfield Dr. Hutto Engine 2 moved out onto Gattis School to block traffic once WCSO moved out. (See Photos)







Once approval was given, the plan was to start clean-up efforts on the roadways first to try and get them done and clear up the traffic issues. Then work would begin on H-E-B

property. CG Environmental started clean up on Gattis School Rd first at approx. 1830 and advised a second crew was enroute to start on the H-E-B property. (See Photo)



CG advised clean-up would continue throughout the night, so Hazmat 3 cleared at 2020, Hutto FD cleared at 2100 and I cleared at 2210 after making sure the roadway was getting cleaned good. We were still waiting to make contact with the Star Ranch Pool property manager, so that area was coned off for the night and not cleaned. CG estimated to be done with the road cleaning around midnight and was advised to move all traffic cones to the side of the road when it was done and open. I advised Road and Bridge they could pick their cones up Monday morning. Below is a map showing the route driven be the vehicle where it was leaking fuel. The path in Red is what areas needed clean up by CG, the path in Lime Green is where we could follow the trail, but it did not require cleanup. Overall, the vehicle leaked fuel for 1.2 miles. (See Photo)



At 0800 Monday morning I arrived back at the scene to check the cleaning. CG advised they finished around 0530 Monday morning. Due to some rain moving into the area I put out absorbent booms downhill from the Star Ranch Pool parking lot to contain any runoff from that area that was waiting to be cleaned. The roadway appeared to be cleaned good with no slick

spots, the H-E-B parking lot was clean except where the heavy spill was from the vehicle stopping. That area had been damaged by the large amount of fuel spilled and H-E-B was looking into replacing the pavement. (See Photo)



At 0830, Monday, I received a call from the Star Ranch Pool property manager and I advised him of the situation and what steps had bene taken up to this point. I let him know that we did not have a responsible party to bill for the spill, so it was their responsibility to clean up their property. I gave him contact info for CG Environmental and let them work out a contract for clean-up. I contacted the manager of the H-E-B gas station and she gave me contact info for the H-E-B privacy department, who should be able to get us information off of the purchase made at the pump by the individual responsible for the spill. I sent an email to the H-E-B Privacy Office at <a href="mailto:privacyoffice@heb.com">privacyoffice@heb.com</a> and left a voicemail at 1-866-432-4318 with the Privacy Office and cleared the scene at 1130.

On Tuesday at 0930 I received a phone call from Andrew Huegel privacy department asking for a written request for the information and the reason behind the request. I sent an email to <a href="https://example.com"><u>Huegel.Andrew@heb.com</u></a> at 1500 on Tuesday with the written request and am awaiting a response. I spoke with CG Environmental at 1800 on Tuesday and they advised they would start work cleaning the Star Ranch Pool parking lot on Wednesday morning.

On Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> I received a call from Andrew Huegel with H-E-B advising that the Credit Card used to make the purchase appeared to be stolen and that the individual making the purchase had been to the pump 2 times prior to the third purchase when the spill occurred. He also advised they were not able to get any additional info on the vehicle from security cameras. The Williamson County Sheriffs Office advised they would follow up on the criminal side of the investigation.

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