



ST. LOUIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE NEWS RELEASE

INCIDENT DATE: 08/16/2013 INCIDENT TIME: 8:07 AM
INCIDENT LOCATION: Hibbing Taconite Entrance/Co. Rd. 5--Balkan Township

INDIVIDUAL(S) INVOLVED: (Refer to News Media Policy-Rules III A.1 Thru 4; Procedures B.1, A thru J & 1, 2b, 3b; g & h; 4a, b, & c)

Name: Dan Joseph Richards Age: 62 Address: Virginia, MN
Name: _____ Age: _____ Address: _____

INCIDENT SUMMARY:

On 8/16/2013, at approx. 8:07 AM the St. Louis Co. 9-1-1 Center received an emergency call of a Dyno Nobel tanker truck that had rolled over onto its side. The accident occurred on the entrance road leading into Hibbing Taconite just West of County Road 5 in Balkan Township. The tanker truck was discovered to be hauling between 40,000 to 45,000 pounds of ammonium nitrate, which is an explosive material used in the blasting process at Hibbing Taconite. Due to the contents of the tanker Co. Road 5 was immediately shut down for public safety, however it was quickly determined that no ammonium nitrate was leaking from the tanker. No evacuations were conducted as the nearest residences were outside of the Haz-Mat recommended evacuation guidelines. The driver of the tanker received minor injuries and was transported by the Chisholm Ambulance to the Range Regional Medical Center. At approx. 3:15 PM once the contents of the tanker were secured and transferred to another tanker the area was opened up for normal traffic. The cause of the accident remains under investigation by the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office.

ASSISTING AGENCIES:

Hibbing Police Dept., MN State Patrol Commercial Vehicle Division, Chisholm Fire & Ambulance Service, Hibbing Fire & Ambulance Service, Town of French Fire Dept., St. Louis Co. Rescue Squad and MN State Duty Officer.

AUTHORITY: Lt. Jason Akerson DATE: 08/16/2013 TIME: 4:00 PM

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR UPDATE:

UPDATE **UPDATE**

The identity of the tanker driver is noted above. The results of the MN State Patrol Commercial Vehicle inspection of the tanker truck/trailer are complete and no violations were found that would have contributed to the accident. Speed appears to be a contributing factor of the accident as the driver attempted to turn off of Co. Rd. 5 onto the mine entrance road. The case has been referred to the St. Louis Co. Attorney's Office in Hibbing for appropriate charges.

AUTHORITY: Lt. Jason Akerson DATE: 8/21/13 TIME: 1:00 PM