

# Four barrels of polluted water spills at Greka site

Colby Frazier, Santa Barbara Independent, 7-14-10

Three to four barrels of polluted water spilled yesterday morning at a Greka Oil and Gas Inc. facility on Dominion Road near Santa Maria, authorities said.

Santa Barbara County fire crews responded to the spill shortly after 9:15 a.m. According to a county fire spokesman, Greka crews were cleaning up the spill when firefighters arrived on scene.

“It was really a non-incident, even when it occurred,” the spokesman said.

While the spill was small, about 168 gallons, and apparently didn’t involve any oil, the spills add up.

In 2009, Greka was responsible for 32 of the 38 spills involving crude oil, polluted water and toxic gas discharges at onshore drilling facilities, county documents show.

In all, 32,675 gallons of oil and water spewed onto local soil that year, with Greka being by far the largest contributor.