UESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What if oil gets onto my clothing or my shoes?

Remove the affected clothing and/or footwear and place them into a plastic bag. Contact the CL&P Environmental Representative (see attached business card) for additional instructions.

What if oil comes in contact with my skin?

Wash any affected areas thoroughly with soap and warm water.

What should I do if I get oil in my eye(s)?

If oil gets into your eye(s), remove contact lenses (if applicable) and flush the affected eye(s) for 15 minutes with cool water.

Is there any health risk associated with PCBs?

According to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, incidental or casual contact with PCBs does not pose a high risk of illness or disease.

How might I be exposed to PCBs?

PCBs might be absorbed through the skin or possibly ingested through direct contact with PCB-containing oil. Another possible way is by inhaling vapors from overheated electrical equipment that has PCB-containing oil. However, the risk of inhalation is minimal unless the oil is subject to extreme temperatures as could occur in a fire.

Should you have any health concerns, contact a physician as a precaution.

Connecticut Light & Power

The Northeast Utilities System

IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENTS YOU LIVE IN

REMEMBER

- If you observe either a transformer oil spill or leak, immediately contact CL&P or in the event of any emergency, call 911.
- CL&P will identify if PCBs are present either by reviewing information on the transformer or by performing a field or laboratory test.
- Whether or not PCBs are involved, CL&P complies with federal and state cleanup requirements for transformer oil spills, and restores the affected property to pre-spill condition.

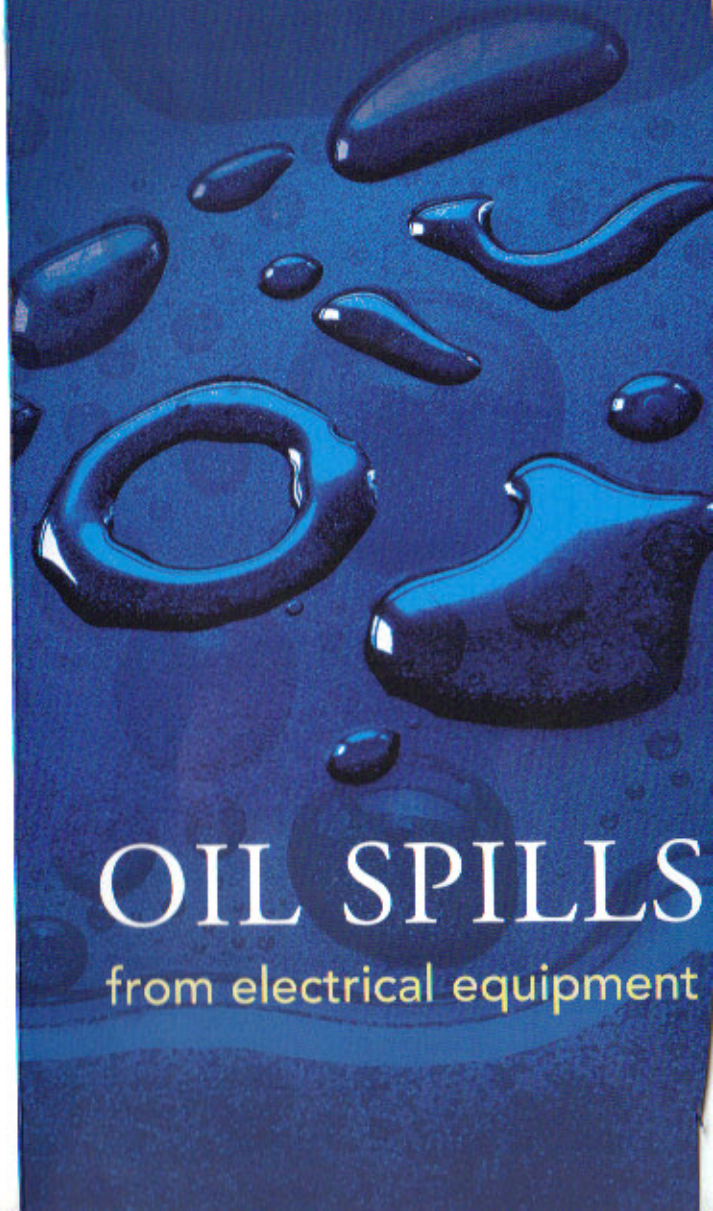
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the CL&P Environmental Representative on the attached business card or CL&P Customer Service at 800.286.2000 or 860.947.2000 (Hartford/Meriden calling areas).

Information For Our Customers

Connecticut Light & Power

The Northeast Utilities System



OIL SPILLS

from electrical equipment

e CL&P System

e Connecticut Light & Power Company (CL&P) livers electricity to 1.2 million customers in 149 es and towns across the state. Our delivery tem consists of nearly 17,000 miles of overhead e, over 6,100 miles of underground cable and r 260,000 transformers. It is these transformers t reduce the power to a lower, usable voltage homes and businesses. Many of these are the iliar "pole-mounted," can-shaped pieces equipment commonly seen on utility poles. also have "pad-mounted" transformers that installed on concrete pads or contained in derground vaults.

nsformers contain mineral oil, which could leak a variety of reasons, ranging from overheating, osion or vehicle accidents to adverse weather ditions such as ice, high winds or lightning.

brochure provides CL&P customers with c information regarding the use of mineral oil ur equipment, as well as the steps taken if a lem occurs.

Mounted Transformer

Why is Oil Used in Transformers?

The process of reducing electrical voltage in transformers produces heat. To absorb this heat, transformers are filled with a petroleum-based mineral oil. The mineral oil carries heat from the transformers' inner coil to the outer surface where it can be cooled by air. The mineral oil also insulates the coil and protects it from corrosion.

Mineral oil is considered non-toxic and is non-flammable. It is similar to the oil used in many commercial products and medicines and is normally not considered a threat to human health.

However, mineral oil in waterways may be harmful to fish and wildlife. Therefore, it is important to immediately contact CL&P regarding a transformer oil spill or leak to minimize any potential impact.

Pad-Mounted Transformer

Mineral oil in waterways may be harmful to fish and wildlife. Therefore, it is important to immediately contact CL&P regarding a transformer oil spill or leak to minimize any potential impact.

What about PCBs?

The mineral oil in some older transformers may contain polychlorinated biphenyls or PCBs. These chemical compounds were formerly used in transformers because of their fire-resistant qualities.

In 1977, transformer manufacturers stopped using oil containing PCBs because of evidence that PCBs build up in the environment and may be harmful to fish and wildlife.

Do CL&P's transformers contain PCBs?

Approximately five percent of CL&P's transformers contain some level of PCBs. If there is a transformer oil spill, a CL&P crew checks for possible PCB content by reviewing information on the transformer's nameplate or label, by using a field test kit or by sending a sample to a lab for analysis. If it is determined that the transformer contains PCBs, appropriate measures are immediately taken to protect human health, property and the environment.

CL&P's Oil Cleanup Policy

Whether or not PCBs are involved, CL&P complies with federal and state cleanup requirements for transformer oil spills. In certain circumstances, CL&P will consult with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection for specific cleanup guidance.

For spills on solid surfaces, the oil is removed using environmentally friendly cleanup materials. If vegetation is affected, it is either cleaned or removed. If oil gets into soil, CL&P will use reasonable measures to remove visible traces of the oil. Finally, CL&P will conduct a field evaluation