At approximately 12:40 AM on May 12, 2010, a fire occurred at the Evergreen Oil (Evergreen) facility, located at 6880 Smith Street, Newark, California. Evergreen, which operates 24-hours per day, collects and re-refines used automotive oils. It is located in a commercial/light industrial area with single family homes located about a quarter mile to the east.

The Alameda County, Fremont, and Union City Fire Departments responded to the three alarm fire with the first crews arriving at approximately 12:45 AM. The fire was contained to a heater/furnace. The furnace heats non-process oil which then circulates through heat exchangers used for pre-heating the used motor oils (process oil). The fire was extinguished within one and a half hours and no process oil was involved. There were no injuries reported and a shelter-in-place warning was not called. The District did not receive any air pollution complaints.

The cause of the fire is under investigation. Evergreen personnel stated the burned material was non-hazardous. District staff took a sample of the material and obtained the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

Staff will continue to investigate this incident to determine if there were any violations of air quality regulations. This report will be updated as new information becomes available.