CITY OF SPRINGFIELD
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION OF Memo to File

DATE May 27, 1977

DEPARTMENT

Re: Truck Wreck and Consequent Diesel Fuel & Carbon Black Spill at I 44 Overpass and Kearney

This office received a call 5/23/77 concerning the above incident. Bob Corson and I responded to the call and contacted Mr. Ron Fugitt of the State Highway Department who was in charge of the cleanup on the overpass. He referred us to the policeman there for details on the accident. The Aeroquip driver, Roma Miller, apparently fell asleep at the wheel and his truck left the roadway. However, a guard rail guided him back onto the road and the truck overturned on the bridge. The force of the impact ripped the trailer in half, spilling the load of bagged carbon black. The bulk of the carbon black remained on the south end of the bridge. A considerable quantity also spilled onto the railroad tracks below, along with pieces of the trailer and sacks. Approximately 50 bags were salvaged but the total quantity lost is unknown. About 100 gallons of diesel fuel were lost from the saddle tanks of the tractor. Sawdust was applied to the fuel and it appeared that none reached the storm ditch. The Highway Department tried several methods to clean up the carbon black, but none seemed to work well. They put sawdust on it and swept it along with the diesel fuel. What was not picked up, which was the majority of the carbon black, was blown off the bridge with an air compressor. Frisco employees cleaned the tracks and left the debris along with the other mess under the bridge. Aeroquip contracted Blagg Wrecking to clean up the remaining debris. We contacted Mr. Blagg and told him, as well as the crew, that we had made arrangements at the landfill for disposal of the material

SIGNED

John T. Witherspoon, Water Pollution Control Inspector II, Surveillance & Enforcement

3700 W. KEARNEY