



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND ENERGY INDUSTRIES

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PRESS RELEASE

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PETROTRIN OIL SPILL

The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI) was informed by the Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago (PETROTRIN) of an oil spill on 23 April 2017 at about 2:45 p.m. at its Pointe-a-Pierre Refinery from storage tank #70 located in Petrotrin's Refining Complex.

The storage tank contained RMG 380 centistokes Fuel Oil. The majority of the oil was contained within the Refinery. Some of the oil escaped into the sea.

The oil in the sea was moving, as observed today at 10:00 a.m., to the West of Pointe-a-Pierre and the area of impact extended to approximately 10 21.59N and 61 45.9W. Observed was rainbow sheen, metallic/grey sheen and black oil. The majority of the areas impacted exhibit this metallic/grey sheen. Trajectory modelling shows that oil will move to the West and will widen.

The amount of oil that spilled has been estimated to be 300 barrels.

The mechanisms adopted by PETROTRIN to date has been to employ containment booms at Pointe-a-Pierre to prevent additional oil from escaping the port area, corralling booms, vessels and a barge to herd oil and transfer oil to the barge, and the use of vessels to break up oil and sheen. Slickgone NS, as approved by the MEEI, is being used to address the oil spill. At this time the National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) has been activated to Tier 2.

The MEEI is employing the Incident Management System to manage this spill in coordination with PETROTRIN and other Government Agencies in accordance with the NOSCP. The Environmental Management Authority is monitoring the operations.

As further information becomes available, a subsequent release will be issued.

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