

News Release Communiqué



Ministry of the
Environment

Ministère de
l'Environnement

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AB MURRAY TRANSPORT LTD. AND PATRICK ALPHONSE MURRAY FINED \$25,000 FOR VIOLATING THE ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES ACT

OWEN SOUND — Ab Murray Transport Ltd. and Patrick Alphonse Murray have been fined \$25,000 after pleading guilty to discharging a material that could impair water quality and failing to forthwith report the discharge.

Ab Murray Transport Ltd. is located in the Village of Lucknow and transports agricultural products and livestock. Kinloss Creek, which flows into the Nine Mile River, runs along the west side of the company's property.

The court heard that shortly before 6:00 a.m. on October 30, 2003, an employee was refuelling a transport truck at the company's facility. The pump and nozzle were left unattended while the employee performed other tasks. Upon return, the employee discovered that the nozzle was lying on the ground and spilling diesel fuel. The employee immediately reported the incident to Patrick Alphonse Murray.

Later that afternoon, a local resident notified the Ministry of the Environment of a sheen on the Nine Mile River and an odour of fuel. The source of the fuel was traced to the site of Ab Murray Transport Ltd. Ministry officials attended the scene and confirmed that the unreported discharge of diesel fuel had occurred nearly twelve hours earlier.

Ab Murray Transport Ltd. pleaded guilty to discharging, or causing or permitting the discharge of material that may impair water quality contrary to section 30(1) of the Ontario Water Resources Act and has been fined \$20,000 plus court costs and victim fine surcharge. Patrick Alphonse Murray pleaded guilty to failing to forthwith notify the ministry when a material was discharged which may impair the quality of the water contrary to section 30(2) of the Act and has been fined \$5,000 plus court costs and victim fine surcharge.

Justice of the Peace Robert Gay heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice in Owen Sound, Ontario, on January 4, 2006.

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