



## Kingman County Commission

Fred Foley, County Commissioner District #1  
Carol F. Voran, County Commissioner District #2  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** – July 30, 2015

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### **Lightning cause of oil tank fire near Cunningham**

A lightning strike is the apparent cause of an oil tank fire on July 29. The incident occurred at approximately 1:50 p.m. in the 18000 block of NW 20<sup>th</sup> Street, which is northwest of Cunningham.

Workers in the area stated they saw lightning strike one of a group of four storage tanks. Witnesses said an explosion ensued, sending parts of one of the tanks flying several hundred yards away. The Cunningham Fire Department was the first responder on the scene. Four tanks were completely engulfed in flames. Two additional tanks east of the four tanks also were ablaze.

Also responding to the incident were the Preston Fire Department, Kingman County Sheriff's Office, Kingman County Emergency Management and the local Kansas Corporation Commission representative.

Approximately 12,000 gallons of oil and 33,000 gallons of salt water were stored in the tanks. All fluids were contained within the diked area surrounding the tanks.

No injuries were reported and no loss estimate has been released. Crystal River Oil & Gas is the owner of the tanks. The KCC is overseeing the cleanup of the site.

(Photo by Fred Simon, Kingman County Emergency Management)

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