

# Compactor and Trailer Catch Fire in Five Mile Point

Photos & Story by N. Griswold

At 19:08 Hours on the evening of June 9th, 2018, Broome County Communications dispatched the Five Mile Point Fire Department (59) to 10 Spud Lane, Frito Lay, for a possible compactor fire at the rear of the building. Initial reports were that there was smoke visible from the compactor but no fire seen. Chief 59B went enroute and arrived to find a full size open top tractor trailer backed up to a compactor attached to the rear of the building with smoke and fire showing. Chief 59 then requested county re-dispatch the incident as a working compactor fire.



N. Griswold Photo- Engine 59-1 arrives on scene.

Contents of the compactor and trailer were rejected batches of potato and corn chips and due to previous fires of this nature at this location it was known that this fire could quickly move into the building. At this point command requested a response from Kirkwood Fire Department(38) who responded with Pumper Tanker 38. Engine 59-1 responded first and crews stretched a single 1-3/4 inch line to the trailer to knock down the fire and begin cooling the trailer. At the same time Frito Lay employees were requested to move the trailer away from the building to prevent any further extension of the fire.

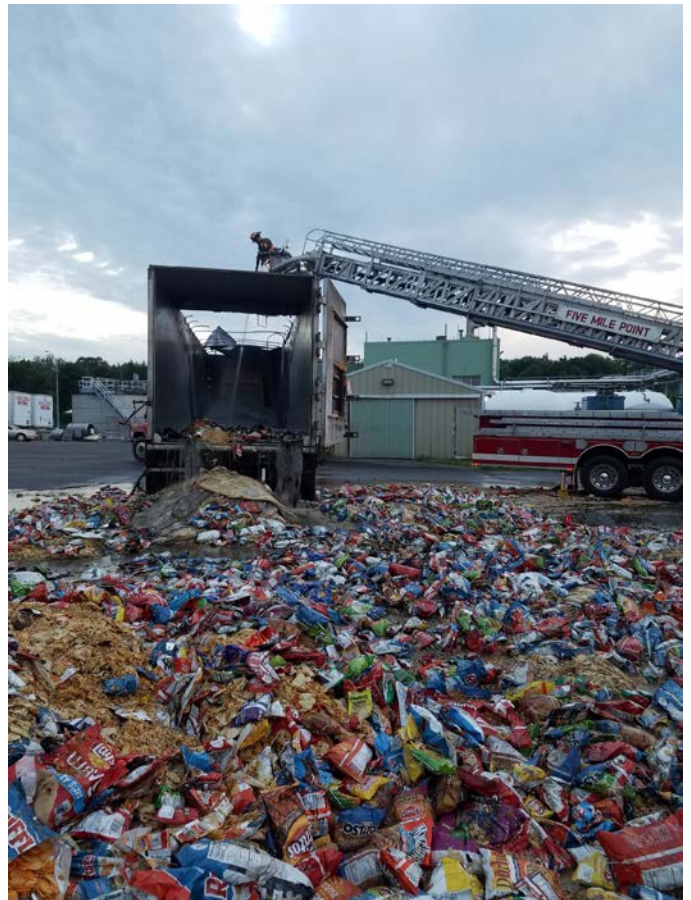
With the trailer pulled away from the compactor crews stretched a second 1 3/4 inch line from Engine 59-2 inside of the building for access to the inside of the compactor and worked to contain the fire within the compactor. Tower 59 and Squad 59 also responded and crews were initially utilized to obtain a water supply and isolate the rear portion of the building and set up positive pressure ventilation.

With fire contained in the compactor crews began unloading the trailer which was about half full of chips and bags. Crews continued to douse fires within the pile of chips as they unloaded the trailer. After unloading a portion of the trailer crews decided to utilize Tower 59 to flood the trailer and aid in unloading the rest of the chips to make sure the fire was completely out.



N. Griswold photo- Crews continue to empty the trailer and extinguish hot spots.

Crews began picking up and returned from the scene by 21:30 and all units were reloaded returned to service by 23:00. Five Mile Point Fire Department was assisted on scene by Kirkwood Fire Department, Broome County Sheriffs Department, and Frito Lay Staff. No Injuries were reported.



N. Griswold photo- With the trailer empty a large pile of chips is left on the ground.