



Malfunction causes Alcoa spill

By **MAX SHOWALTER** • mshowalter@jconline.com
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A spill of oily water into a storm sewer at the Lafayette Alcoa Operations Friday evening put a number of agencies into operation, to clean up the problem and prevent the water from spreading beyond the Elliott Ditch into Wea Creek and the Wabash River.

The accidental release was "related to a malfunction," said Amy Hartsock, a public information officer with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. "It was contained in Elliott Ditch and we have not observed a fish kill."

IDEM, the Environmental Protection Agency and Tippecanoe County Emergency Management were alerted about the spill. Preliminary reports indicate 1,600 gallons of oily water were involved.

"Alcoa was extremely proactive and responsive," Hartsock said.

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