

Operator Shot at During Vehicle Theft

Description:

In the area of Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, at approximately 3:00 pm, an operator's vehicle was stolen.

Individuals were in the act of stealing an operator's truck while the operator was working in a compressor building. Becoming aware of the situation, the operator tried to prevent the theft by reaching into the drivers' side window, directing the truck into a snowbank.

One of the individuals fired a gun at the operator. The operator took cover in a compressor building while shots continued to be fired. The operator was able to flee the building through another exit.

The individuals drove away with the operator's truck, which has since been recovered by RCMP.

This incident could have resulted in severe injuries or a fatality.

Lessons Learned:

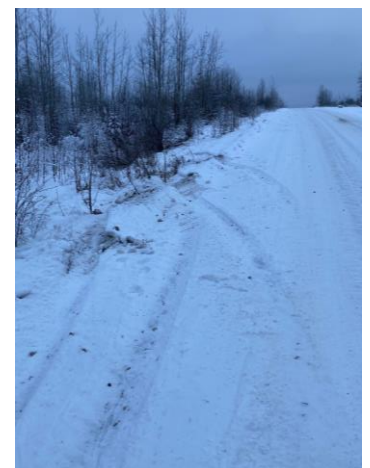
- Continually assess and maintain awareness of surroundings.
- Do not engage with individuals involved in criminal activity as it poses undue risk to personal safety.
- Rural and oilfield theft is an area of risk exposure for operations staff.



Bullet holes in the wall and door of the compressor building



View from inside compressor building door



The truck was directed into the snowbank as operator tried to intervene

What are the recommendations?

- Share incident with operations personnel to raise awareness and ensure they remain vigilant.
- Working alone procedures should be reviewed with impacted workers. Don't have a working alone procedure? Check out: [AB explanation guide for working alone](#).
- Assess and mitigate risk of workers who may encounter criminal activity.
- Continued focus on situational awareness. Be aware of surroundings, being followed and unauthorized vehicles or personnel on worksites.
- Ensure vehicle is parked within sight in a well-lit area.
- If you observe a crime in progress, call 911. Do not intervene or put yourself in harm's way.
- If you have information on this or another crime, contact local law enforcement or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Help industry by sharing learnings from an incident. [Submit your Safety Alert](#).

SHARE AND COLLABORATE

Energy Safety Canada (ESC) works collaboratively with industry to share information aimed at helping companies of all sizes improve safe work performance.

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