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Fuel storage tank catches fire at former PES refinery site in South Philly owned by Hilco

Frank Kummer, The Philadelphia Inquirer - 23 Aug 2021

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An unused fuel storage tank being dismantled by welders caught fire Monday afternoon in South Philadelphia at the former Philadelphia Energy Solutions site, now owned by Hilco Redevelopment Partners and was declared under control several hours later.



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File: Workers disassemble butane tanks in the north yard of the former Philadelphia Energy Solutions refinery in South Philadelphia last November. The PES site was purchased by Hilco Redevelopment Partners, which plans to demolish the refinery and build a set of warehouses in its place.

The fire broke out about 1:15 p.m. at the tank on the 1,300-acre property off Penrose Avenue and South 26th Street. The Philadelphia Fire Department did not have to evacuate any residents, and no one was injured.

What we know about Hilco Redevelopment Partners

Up to 100 firefighters responded. The fire was declared under control by 4:30 p.m. The Fire Marshal’s Office is investigating the cause, according to Fire Department spokesperson Kathy Matheson.

“smoldering” fire with equipment that is kept on site, the statement said.

However, someone from outside PES called the Philadelphia Fire Department and firefighters assisted, as well as inspected the tank to ensure it was not burning.

NorthStar said there was no danger to the community and it will conduct an investigation.

The PES site was forced to close in June 2019 [after a leak and explosion](#) rattled the neighborhood and city, though no one was harmed. The

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