

Fire forces evacuation of Holton plant

(KNZA)--A Saturday afternoon fire forced the evacuation of a Holton sausage plant.

Jackson County Sheriff Tim Morse, in a news release, said the Sheriff's Office 911 center received a report of a fire at the Banner Creek/Johnsonville Sausage Plant located at 619 East 4th Street shortly before 2:00.

The Holton Fire Department, Jackson County EMS, Holton Police Department and Jackson County Sheriff's Office responded to the scene.

Morse said the building was evacuated and the fire extinguished.

No injuries were reported.

Morse said traffic on 4th Street near the plant was diverted for a short period.

The Holton Fire Department said the fire started as workers were dismantling an unused storage tank located outside of the building. Residual oils inside the tank caught fire as the tank was cut into.

A damage estimate was not immediately available.

Many Signals Communications