

# STATE OF ALASKA

**SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR**

**DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE  
CONTAMINATED SITES PROGRAM**

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File # 2215.38.006

July 25, 2007

Jim Goossens  
City of Cordova  
Box 1210  
Cordova, AK 99574

RE: City of Cordova High School  
Record of Decision

Dear Mr. Goossens:

The Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program (ADEC) reviewed the environmental records associated with the City of Cordova High School. This site had been contaminated by the release of a hazardous substance; however, based on the information provided to date, ADEC has determined that no further remedial action is required, and that the City of Cordova High School can be closed subject to the conditions outlined in this document. The hazardous substance contamination has been adequately addressed and does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

This letter summarizes the decision process used to determine the environmental status of this site and provides a summary of the regulatory issues considered in the ADEC determination.

## **Introduction**

### Site Name and Location

City of Cordova High School  
100 Fisherman Ave  
Cordova, AK 99574

### Name and Mailing Address of Contact Party:

Jim Goossens  
City of Cordova  
Box 1210  
Cordova, AK 99574

### Database Record Key and CS file number:

ADEC Reckey # 2001240120801  
CS file # 2215.38.006

Regulatory authority under which the site is being cleaned up:

18 AAC 75

### **Background**

Contaminated soil was identified during removal of a 3,000-gallon heating oil tank.

### **Cleanup Actions**

Following removal of the tank, approximately 200 cubic yards of contaminated soil were removed from the site and stockpiled on a liner at Fleming Spit in Cordova. The excavation was limited by the presence of buried utilities and also by a building foundation. Potentially contaminated groundwater was noted in the bottom of the excavation; however no groundwater samples were collected. A confirmation sample collected from the bottom of the excavation contained DRO at 3,280 mg/kg.

### **Contaminants of Concern**

Diesel Range Organics

### **Cleanup Levels**

The soil cleanup levels established for this site are: 18 AAC 75.341 Tables B1 and B2, Over 40 inch Zone, Migration to Groundwater.

<u>Contaminant</u>	<u>Site Cleanup Level (mg/kg)</u>
Diesel Range Organics	230

### **Pathway Evaluation**

The pathways evaluated at this site include the human health exposure pathways of soil ingestion and inhalation of vapors. The inhalation and ingestion pathways may be complete but contaminant concentrations are below inhalation and ingestion cleanup levels.

The migration to groundwater pathway may be complete but groundwater is not used as a drinking water source and there are no wells in the vicinity of the high school. The proximity of the high school to salt water makes installation of wells unlikely in this area.

### **ADEC Decision**

The cleanup actions conducted at the City of Cordova High School were effective in removing the majority of impacted soil associated with the former heating oil tank. There is contamination remaining above established cleanup levels but ADEC determined there is no unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, and this site will be conditionally closed.

This decision is subject to the following conditions:

1. A Notice of Environmental Contamination will be recorded on the ADEC database to document that there is residual contamination remaining on site above the most stringent ADEC cleanup levels;

2. Any proposal to transport soil off site requires ADEC approval in accordance with 18 AAC 75.325(i).

This determination is in accordance with 18 AAC 78.276(f) and does not preclude ADEC from requiring additional assessment and/or cleanup action if future information indicates that this site may pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Site closure (without conditions) can be achieved when soil sampling confirms that all soil meets the most stringent ADEC cleanup levels.

**Appeal**

Any person who disagrees with this decision may request an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 18 AAC 15.195 -18 AAC 15.340 or an informal review by the Division Director in accordance with 18 AAC 15.185. Informal review requests must be delivered to the Division Director, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, Juneau, Alaska 99801, within 15 days after receiving the department's decision reviewable under this section. Adjudicatory hearing requests must be delivered to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, Juneau, Alaska 99801, within 30 days after the date of issuance of this letter, or within 30 days after the department issues a final decision under 18 AAC 15.185. If a hearing is not requested within 30 days, the right to appeal is waived.

If you have questions about this closure decision, please contact William O'Connell at (907) 269-3057.

Sincerely,



Jim Frechione  
Environmental Manager