



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

Department of
Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION & RESPONSE
Contaminated Sites Program

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March 4, 2013

Ms. Marcy Sutton
Materials and Facility Manager
Matanuska Electric Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 2929
Palmer, AK 99645

Re: Decision Document; MEA Palmer Headquarters – 2010 UST Removals,
163 East Industrial Way - Corrective Action Complete Determination

Dear Ms. Sutton;

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program (ADEC) has completed a review of the environmental records associated with the MEA Palmer Headquarters – 2010 UST Removals located at 163 East Industrial Way in Palmer, Alaska. Based on the information provided to date, it has been determined that the contaminant concentrations remaining on site do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

This decision is based on the MEA Palmer Headquarters – 2010 UST Removals administrative record which is located in the offices of the ADEC in Anchorage, Alaska. 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 Corrective Action Complete determination

Introduction

Site Name and Location

MEA Palmer Headquarters – 2010 UST Removals
163 Industrial Way
Palmer, Alaska

Legal Description: Township 17N, Range 2E, Section 4 Lot B3

Name and Mailing Address of Contact Party:

Ms. Marcy Sutton
Materials and Facility Manager
Matanuska Electric Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 2929
Palmer, AK 99645

ADEC Site Identifiers:

Hazard ID #25626
Facility ID# 1749
CS file # 2245.26.033

Regulatory authority under which the site is being cleaned up:

18 AAC 75 and 18 AAC 78

Background

The Matanuska Electric Association (MEA) is located on 6.84 acres in downtown Palmer. The facility operates as an administrative office overseeing management of the electrical cooperative within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The site includes the corporation main office, shop, warehouse, and storage yard. In addition, the property stores maintenance equipment, vehicles, and supplies. These regulated underground storage tanks (USTs) were installed in 1989 to provide fuel for vehicles owned/operated by MEA.

The USTs were in use since 1989. A 2000-gallon diesel tank, a 2000-gallon unleaded gasoline tank, and their associated piping and dispensers were removed on October 16, 2010. All confirmation excavation samples meet default cleanup levels. Those samples ranged up to 230 mg/kg DRO. Fuel stained soil was found below the diesel dispenser and along the side of the diesel tank. Groundwater was not encountered during the excavation work. A total of 120 cubic yards of soil was excavated and placed in a treatment cell (28 foot by 30 foot by 4 foot thick with 8 inches of clean gravel cover) located in the former tank excavation.

On September 14, 2012 six confirmation soil samples were collected from throughout the treatment cell in the former tank excavation. Those samples had up to 50.6 mg/kg DRO and 0.024 mg/kg toluene.

The property is connected to the City of Palmer's publically owned sewer and water systems. Groundwater in the immediate area is typically at 80 feet below ground surface. The nearest drinking water well is located greater than ¼ mile from the MEA property.

Site Characterization and Cleanup Activities

A 2000-gallon diesel UST, a 2000-gallon unleaded gasoline UST, and their associated piping and dispensers were removed on October 16, 2010. All excavation samples met the most stringent 18 AAC 75.341 cleanup levels, i.e., migration to groundwater. Those samples had up to 230 mg/kg DRO. Groundwater was not encountered during the excavation work.

Fuel stained soil was found below the diesel dispenser and along the side of the diesel tank. A total of 120 cubic yards of soil was excavated and placed in a treatment cell (28 foot by 30 foot by 4 foot

thick with 8 inches of clean gravel cover) in the former tank excavation. About 10 pounds of garden fertilizer was mixed in with each of the four 1 foot thick layers in the treatment cell.

After placement of soil the top 6 inches of the treatment cell was sampled. The highest contaminated stockpile sample collected contained 362 mg/kg DRO, but the stained soil that was also put in the treatment cell and soil deeper than 6 inches was not sampled.

On September 14, 2012 six confirmation soil samples were collected from throughout the treatment cell that had been constructed in the former tank excavation. Those samples had up to 50.6 mg/kg DRO and 0.024 mg/kg toluene.

Contaminants of Concern

During the investigation at this site, soil samples were analyzed for diesel range organics (DRO), gasoline range organics (GRO), and benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX). Based on the results of these investigations, the following contaminants of concern were identified in soil:

- DRO
- GRO
- Benzene
- Toluene
- Ethylbenzene
- Total xylenes

Cleanup Levels

The default soil cleanup levels for this site are established in 18 AAC 75.341, Method Two, Table B2, Under 40 Inch Zone, Migration to Groundwater.

<u>Contaminant</u>	<u>Site Cleanup Level (mg/kg)</u>
• DRO	250
• GRO	300
• Benzene	0.025
• Toluene	6.5
• Ethylbenzene	6.9
• Total xylenes	63

Pathway Evaluation

Following a review of the environmental records for the site, exposure to the remaining contaminants was evaluated using ADEC’s Exposure Tracking Model (ETM). Exposure pathways are the conduits by which contamination may reach human or ecological receptors. ETM results show all pathways to be one of the following: De Minimis Exposure, Exposure Controlled, or Pathway Incomplete. A summary of this pathway evaluation is included in Table 1

Table 1 – Exposure Pathway Evaluation

Pathway	Result	Explanation
Direct Contact with Surface Soil	De Minimis Exposure	Remaining petroleum contamination is below the direct contact cleanup level for soil.
Direct Contact with Sub-Surface Soil	De Minimis Exposure	Remaining petroleum contamination is below the direct contact cleanup level for soil.
Inhalation-Outdoor Air	De Minimis Exposure	Remaining petroleum contamination is below the inhalation cleanup level for soil.
Inhalation-Indoor Air	De Minimis Exposure	Remaining DRO and BTEX contamination is below those constituent's 18 AAC 75.341 most stringent migration to groundwater cleanup levels for soil.
Groundwater Ingestion	De Minimis Exposure	Confirmation soil samples at the bottom of the excavation at 9.5 ft. bgs did not contain contaminants above migration to groundwater cleanup levels. Groundwater was not encountered and it typically is about 80 ft. bgs in that area of Palmer.
Surface Water Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	The nearest surface water body is located 1.1 miles from the site. Surface water in the area is not used for drinking water purposes.
Wild Foods Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	Wild foods are not collected in this area.
Exposure to Ecological Receptors	Pathway Incomplete	There are no complete exposure pathways to ecological receptors at the site

Notes to Table 1: "De-minimis exposure" means that in ADEC's judgment receptors are unlikely to be affected by the minimal volume of remaining contamination. "Pathway incomplete" means that in ADEC's judgment contamination has no potential to contact receptors. "Exposure controlled" means there is an administrative mechanism in place limiting land or groundwater use, or a physical barrier in place that deters contact with residual contamination.

ADEC Decision

The ADEC has determined there is no unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, and this site will be granted a Corrective Action Complete determination.

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.

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 ADEC Project Manager Robert Weimer at (907) 269-7525.

Approved By,



Rich Sundet
Environmental Manager

Recommended By,



Robert Weimer
Environmental Engineering Associate

Cc: Ralph Hulbert, AlaskChem Engineering, consultant