

## Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE Contaminated Sites Program

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File: 400.38.031

January 31, 2017

Sent via electronic mail only
John Handeland
Nome Joint Utility System
P.O. Box 70
Nome, AK 99762

Re: Institutional Controls (ICs) Verification for **Nome New Power Plant**, located at 504 Port Road in Nome, Alaska 99762

The Contaminated Sites Program conducts periodic verification of closed sites where institutional controls (land use restrictions) are required under 18 AAC 75.375. We have identified Nome New Power Plant as a site with institutional controls.

In order to prevent people from being exposed to any remaining contamination on the property, this letter is being sent as a reminder of the conditions placed on the property as part of the 2007 Conditional Closure Notification, the 2008 Notice of Environmental Contamination, and the 2014 Decision Document: Institutional Controls Modification granted by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). At the time of closure, soil and groundwater contamination were documented as remaining on the property.

Policy and regulations have evolved since this site was closed with conditions in 2007. Please be advised that the Nome New Power Plant site is subject to the following site-specific and standard conditions and/or controls:

- 1. As of December 2014, security measures in place at the Nome New Power Plant site include internal and external security cameras outfitting the building and area, which is staffed 24 hours a day. There are also "Restricted Area" and "Authorized Personnel Only" signs posted on the outside of the building. You are required to notify the ADEC if these security measures change in any way. You will need to provide photo documentation of the changes so that we may evaluate their effectiveness in ensuring that conditions at the site remain protective of human health and the environment.
- 2. Groundwater should not be used as a drinking water source. A deed restriction precluding the installation of any groundwater wells without ADEC approval shall be attached to the property. The notice was filed with the ADNR Recorder's Office on July 18, 2008 and is identified by Document Number 2008-001262-0. A copy of the notice is enclosed.

- 3. The soil cap of 4 to 7 feet over the contaminated soil areas shall be maintained to prevent soil and water exposure pathways.
- 4. The owner/operator of the site shall ensure oversight and screening by a qualified environmental consultant when (or if) soil excavation is proposed. In the event that contamination is discovered, ADEC shall be notified.
- 5. Construction activities may require workers to wear appropriate personal protection equipment in accordance with the facility's site safety plan.
- 6. Any future change in land use may impact the exposure assumptions cited in this document. If land use and/or ownership changes, these management conditions may not be protective and ADEC may require additional remediation and revised conditions. Therefore, the Nome New Power Plant shall report to ADEC every 2 years to document land use, or report as soon as you become aware of any change in land ownership and/or use, if earlier. The report can be sent to the local ADEC office or electronically to <a href="mailto:DEC.ICUnit@alaska.gov">DEC.ICUnit@alaska.gov</a>.
- 7. Any proposal to transport soil or groundwater off-site requires ADEC approval in accordance with 18 AAC 75.325(i). A "site" [as defined by 18 AAC 75.990 (115)] means an area that is contaminated, including areas contaminated by the migration of hazardous substances from a source area, regardless of property ownership. *This is a standard condition*.
- 8. Movement or use of contaminated material in a manner that results in a violation of 18 AAC 70 water quality standards is prohibited. *This is a standard condition*.
- 9. Groundwater in the state of Alaska is protected for aquaculture use. In the event that an aquaculture facility uses groundwater from this site in the future, additional treatment may be required to meet aquatic life criteria under 18 AAC 70. This is a standard condition.

Failure to maintain these requirements may result in re-opening the site by the Contaminated Sites Program, in which case, further remediation could be mandatory.

In accordance with 18 AAC 75.380(d)(2), ADEC may require additional site assessment, monitoring, remediation, and/or necessary actions at this facility should new information become available that indicates contamination at this site may pose a threat to human health or the environment.

If you seek to have the institutional controls removed from this site, you can choose at any time to voluntarily conduct additional assessment, monitoring or further cleanup to demonstrate that contamination at the site now meets the applicable cleanup levels under 18 AAC 75.

This site information is a matter of public record and is available at ADEC's online database record at: <a href="http://dec.alaska.gov/Applications/SPAR/PublicMVC/CSP/SiteReport/3971">http://dec.alaska.gov/Applications/SPAR/PublicMVC/CSP/SiteReport/3971</a>

The ADEC will issue a reminder letter such as this on a scheduled basis, every two years. If you have any questions regarding this site, please contact me at (907) 465-5229 or <a href="evonne.reese@alaska.gov">evonne.reese@alaska.gov</a> and I will be glad to assist you.

Sincerely,

Evonne Reese

**Environmental Program Specialist** 

Institutional Controls Unit

Encl: 2007 Conditional Closure Notification

2008 Notice of Environmental Contamination

2014 Decision Document: Institutional Controls Modification

Note: This letter is being transmitted to you in electronic format only. If you require a paper copy, let us know and we will be happy to provide one to you. In the interest of reducing file space, the Division of SPAR/Contaminated Sites Program is transitioning to electronic transmission of project correspondence.

