

STATE OF ALASKA

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

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April 25, 2007

Mr. Scott Berglund
Federal Aviation Administration
222 West 7th Avenue, Building #14
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7587

Re: FAA Gustavus Facility, rekey 1996110019701
Site Closure Approved for Former Aboveground Storage Tank

Dear Mr. Berglund:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has completed a review of the project file for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Gustavus Facility in order to determine additional environmental cleanup actions which need to occur at the facility prior to closure by DEC. The site file review was conducted at this time as DEC has recently assigned a new project manager to this site. During this review, it was determined that a former aboveground storage tank (AST) site located at the remote communications air/ground (RCAG) facility has been cleaned up sufficiently in order for site closure to be appropriate.

The presence of contaminated soil associated with the 2500-gallon diesel AST near Building 606 at the RCAG was first documented in the *1992 Environmental Compliance Investigation Report (ECIR)*. A soil sample was collected from the surface soil and a sample result for total petroleum hydrocarbons was 19,200 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg). The AST was removed and replaced with a 500-gallon AST.

In 1997, the nature and extent of contamination was determined with the advancement of 12 soil boring to depths of 5-7.5 feet below ground surface (bgs) and the installation of one (1) monitoring well to a depth of 14 feet bgs, which was documented in the *1998 Remedial Investigation Report (RI)*. Additional monitoring wells had been planned, but were not installed due to construction and earthwork activities underway at the airport. The soil borings showed an area of contamination approximately 30 feet by 35 feet and extending in places to the depth of groundwater at 6 feet bgs. Soil sample results revealed concentrations of diesel-range organics up to 6300 mg/kg present. All results for benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, and xylenes were either non-detect or significantly below DEC's method two cleanup levels of 18 Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) 75.341, Table B1. The groundwater sample results from the monitoring well were diesel-range organics of 1.1 milligrams per liter (mg/L) and benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, and xylenes of non-detect.

Based on the information in the *RI*, excavation and off-site disposal of the contaminated soil was conducted and documented in the *2000 Remedial Action Report (RA)*. Approximately 134 tons of contaminated soil was excavated and sent to United Soil Recycling (USR) in Juneau for thermal treatment. Prior to conducting the soil removal, a groundwater sample was collected from the monitoring well and analyzed for gasoline-range organics, diesel-range organics, residual-range organics, benzene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, toluene, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons; the results for all analytes were non-detect. The excavation proceeded to encompass approximately 800 square feet to a depth of 6-7' bgs. Ten (10) confirmation samples were collected from four (4) locations, with a sample collected from the unsaturated zone at 3' bgs and another from the soil-water interface at 6' bgs. The samples were analyzed for gasoline-range organics, diesel-range organics, residual-range organics, benzene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, toluene, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. The highest detected concentrations of all sample results were diesel-range organics of 189 mg/kg, residual-range organics of 347 mg/kg, and naphthalene of 4.6 mg/kg; all other analyte results were non-detect. No samples were collected from the base of the excavation as it extended to the groundwater table. Field-screening was performed with a photo-ionization detector (PID) at a depth of 5' bgs prior to reaching groundwater and the results did not indicate the presence of high levels of petroleum in the soil. All confirmation soil sample results were below DEC's method two cleanup levels of 18 AAC 75.341, Tables B1 and B2 of diesel-range organics of 230 mg/kg, residual-range organics of 8300 mg/kg, and naphthalene of 19 mg/kg. The groundwater sample result was below the cleanup levels of 18 AAC 75.345, Table C of diesel-range organics of 1.5 mg/L.

The department has determined that cleanup at this former tank location is complete and site closure is approved. Please note that if, in the future, additional contamination is found to be present that may pose an unacceptable risk to human health, safety, welfare or the environment, it must be reported to the department and additional cleanup may be required.

If you have any questions about this site, please do not hesitate to contact me 766-3184.

Sincerely,



Anne Marie Palmieri
Environmental Program Specialist

cc: Colin Craven, DEC-Fairbanks