



Alaska Department Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Solid Waste Program (Trisha Bower, Sandra Woods, and Rebecca Colvin) and Kawerak, Inc. (Anahma Shannon) conducted a Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP), Waste Erosion Assessment and Review (WEAR) site visit for the Village of Wales, September 13th, 2012. On July 30th, 2014 the Solid Waste Program (Trisha Bower and Rebecca Colvin) performed a follow-up visit to the community. The following narrative is a brief description of our findings during the 2012 and 2014 inspections.

WEAR Sites

- **School Tank Farm, 65.604773/-168.086261 (Active)** – This tank farm is approximately 77 feet from the school and is owned and operated by the Bering Strait School District. It contains 1 horizontal fuel tank, 3 vertical fuel tanks, and 1 small day tank within a lined wooden secondary containment area. The site is completely fenced with a locking gate and has been in this location since the 1990s. The tank farm is approximately 176 feet from the high tide line of the Bering Sea.



- **Native Corporation Tank, 65.617692/-168.102146 (Abandoned)** – This site contains one vertical fuel tank and is located north west of the community on the landfill road. It is not labeled, is significantly weathered, and is reported to no longer be in use. Per the 2004 community map, it is owned by the Wales Native Corporation. The tank is located approximately 265 feet from the high tide line of the Bering Sea.



- **Landfill, 65.620092/-168.105918 (Active)** — This unpermitted landfill is a fenced area fill design and is managed on an as-needed basis. There is a waste separation and diversion program through the IGAP Program, but there is not a collection program. The landfill has accepted special waste and construction and demolition waste in the past. During the 2012 visit, there was visible leachate staining in the landfill and waste was pushing the perimeter fencing down. At the time of the 2014 visit, the site was in the second week of a four week cleanup. The landfill and surrounding area was being cleaned up and consolidated; waste was pulled away from the fencing to repair it; sand was hauled in to grade the middle of the site; and two drain lines were being installed directed to outside the landfill to prevent standing water. The Bering Sea is on 2 sides of the landfill, and storm surges from the Sea were reported to reach the landfill. At its closest point, the Bering Sea is approximately 175 feet from the landfill.

2012 Photos



2014 Photos



- **AVEC Tank Farm, 65.60854/-168.091149 (Active)** – The AVEC tank farm is located within wooden bermed, fenced secondary containment with a locking gate. It supplies fuel to the nearby power plant for the community and has a total capacity of roughly 70,000 gallons. It has been in this location since the 1970s. There was a lot of debris surrounding the tank farm including: used transformers, multiple rusted 55 gallon drums of motor oil, several drums of used antifreeze, and other unlabeled drums. It was reported AVEC has a used oil burner on site. The site remained unchanged from the 2012 visit with the same debris in and around the tank farm. The tank farm is located approximately 160 feet from the Bering Sea.

2012 Photos



2014 Photos



- **Staged Beach Tanks, 65.616504/-168.100295 (Abandoned)** – These tanks are located on the landfill road. They are not labeled and appeared intact, but they are significantly weathered. There are not any hose line connections to the approximately 19 tanks. It was reported that AVEC barged the vertical grey tanks to this location in the 1990s, and they have never stored any fuel in them in this location. The other tanks are also reported to have be moved to this location. The site is unchanged from the 2012 and 2014 inspections. The site is approximately 230 feet from the high tide line of the Bering Sea.

2012 Photos



2014 Photos



- **Naval Field Station, 65.611784/-168.095246 (Closed)** – This site is under the Contaminated Sites Program (File ID 540.38.002) with the status of ‘Cleanup Complete’. It is a former US Navy Aircraft Warning Station, which dates back to World War II. Final cleanup at the site was done 1999-2000. A group of 4 abandoned buildings and some equipment remain. There are batteries, electronics, and other possible contaminants at this site. Although the site is considered closed per the Contaminated Sites Program, locals reported they are still concerned with contaminants at this site. This site is approximately 135 feet from the high tide line of the Bering Sea.



- **City Tanks, 65.608409/-168.091077 (Abandoned)** – This site contains two vertical fuel tanks across the street from the AVEC tank farm. The tanks are not within a fenced area and there is no secondary containment system visible. These tanks appear intact; however it was reported they are no longer in use. The tanks are not labeled as inactive or decommissioned. Per the 1996 Wales Community map, they are owned by the City of Wales and appear to have been in this location since the 1990s. They are approximately 140 feet from the Bering Sea, but are 60 feet from the high tide line.

