

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**  
**Division of Spill Prevention and Response**  
**Prevention and Emergency Response Program**

**SITUATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NAME:** Norquest Seafoods Ammonia Release

**SITREP #:** 1 and final

**SPILL NUMBER:** 04119911101

**LEDGER CODE:**

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** 8:45 AM on April 20, 2004. ADEC was advised of the release via an emergency alert from the Fire Department while monitoring their radio frequency in the office.

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 2:30 PM on April 20, 2004

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** This is the final report.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** Anhydrous Ammonia, approximately 25 lbs. as estimated by Norquest Seafoods Inc.

**LOCATION:** 1705 Tongass Avenue, Ketchikan

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** A leak in the system caused the spill but the exact cause of the leak has not yet been determined. The plant's chief engineer believes that the high pressure relief valve near the condenser had failed.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Norquest Seafoods Inc., Ketchikan

**RESPONSE ACTION:** Upon observing a hissing sound, Norquest maintenance personnel immediately shut the entire ammonia system down. A 911 call was placed to the Ketchikan Fire Department by an outside individual who was impacted by the ammonia vapors. Numerous fire and police response vehicles were sent to the scene.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** Entire ammonia system has been secured. A full assessment of the system is being conducted in order to isolate the problem(s). Corrective actions will be immediately performed by the PRP.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** The area immediately outside of the facility along Tongass Avenue. There was one injury related to the release. The individual, who was not an employee of Norquest, has been taken to the local medical facility for treatment. The condition of the injured person has not been released by Ketchikan General Hospital.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** The ammonia lines that are currently configured to release ammonia in an emergency will be rerouted to either the roof of the facility and/or the rear of the facility so as to not cause any further injury to anyone. A coordinated effort will begin with the facility, Fire Department, and ADEC on training, drills, and general familiarization with the operations of the facility.

**WEATHER:** Sunny, calm, approx. 45 degrees.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander:	Jim Hill, Assistant Fire Chief, Ketchikan Fire Dept.
F.O.S.C.:	CDR. Sifling (USCG)
S.O.S.C.:	Bob Mattson (ADEC)
Field S.O.S.C.:	Bob Fultz, SART Ketchikan (ADEC)

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bob Fultz, ADEC, 225-6200

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sent Via</b>	<b>Additional Info</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Fax</b>
ADNR	Doug Sanvik	Email	<a href="mailto:doug_sanvik@dnr.state.ak.us">doug_sanvik@dnr.state.ak.us</a>	465-3400	465-3513
ADF&G	Mark Fink	Email	Sent via Spill Report Group	267-2338	267-2464
USCG (MSD Ketchikan)	Lt. Milo Ortiz	Email	<a href="mailto:mortiz@cgalaska.uscg.mil">mortiz@cgalaska.uscg.mil</a>	225-4496	225-4499
	MSTC Jeff Prince	Email	<a href="mailto:JPrince@cgalaska.uscg.mil">JPrince@cgalaska.uscg.mil</a>		
	MST1 Van Vu	Email	<a href="mailto:vvu@cgalaska.uscg.mil">vvu@cgalaska.uscg.mil</a>		
EPA	Matt Carr	Email	Sent via Spill Report Group	271-3616	271-3424
Anchorage Hazmat	Tom Wells	Fax		267-5066	279-2106
Fairbanks Hazmat	Tim Biggane	Fax		459-1219	459-1499
103 <sup>RD</sup> Civil Support Group	Alaska National Guard	Email	Tod.perkins@ak.ngb.army.mil		907-384-9414
Ketchikan Fire Department	Jim Hill	Email	JIMH@city.ketchikan.ak.us	225-9616	225-9613
NMFS	Jon Kurland	Email	<a href="mailto:Jon.kurland@noaa.gov">Jon.kurland@noaa.gov</a>	586-7638	586-7358
<b>OTHER</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>Sent Via</b>	<b>Additional Info</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Fax</b>
SEAPRO	Dave Owing	Email	<a href="mailto:dave@seapro.org">dave@seapro.org</a>	225-7002	247-1117
Senate/Dist. A	Sen. Bert Steadman	Fax	Session : Interim:	465-3873 225-8088	465-3922 <a href="tel:225-5013">225-5013</a>
House/Dist. 1	Bill Williams	Fax	Session : Interim:	465-3424 247-4672	465-3793 <a href="tel:225-8546">225-8546</a>
Ketchikan City Mayor	Bob Weinstein	Fax		225-3111	225-5075
Ketchikan Borough Mayor	Mike Salazar	Fax		228-6625	247-6625
Ketchikan Police				225-6631	247-6631