

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Drill Site 14 Crude Oil Spill

SITREP #: 4

SPILL NUMBER: 05399910201

LEDGER CODE: 14102060

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: The release was discovered on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 at approximately 2:30 AM by BP Exploration- Alaska, Inc. (BPXA) personnel. The spill was reported to ADEC by BPXA via the Alaska State troopers at 3:40 AM on April 12, 2005

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 2:00 PM on April 15, 2005

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 9:00 AM on April 18, 2005

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: BPXA reports that approximately 1.4 million standard cubic feet of natural gas and an estimated 10 – 30 barrels (420 – 1260 gallons) of crude oil were released as a mist. The mist settled onto the manifold building, pipes, tanks, and snow at Drill Site 14 (DS-14).

LOCATION: The release occurred at Drill Site 14, which is in the Greater Prudhoe Bay oil production field on the North Slope of Alaska.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The source of the spill is a leak in an artificial lift line that transports pressurized natural gas to Drill Site 14 for injection. A weld in the pipe appears to have failed. The exact cause of the weld failure is yet to be determined.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): BPXA

RESPONSE ACTION: An ADEC responder is onsite in Prudhoe Bay to participate in the Incident Management Team (IMT) as well as to oversee cleanup and disposal activities.

A total of 43 responders are currently on site in teams to working in different areas of the spill site. Oiled snow is swept into windrows or piles using push brooms, and then is removed via bobcats and snow machines with bucket-like trailers. All contaminated snow is being hauled to the Grind & Inject (G&I) facility for disposal. As of 2:00 PM on April 14, 2005, 2994 cubic yards of contaminated snow have been removed for disposal.

Sections designated Area 2 and Area 3 have been designated as clean. These areas include the ground underneath the manifold building and stretching west to the edge of the pad including a gas venting pit and portions of a frozen lake to the west. Area 1 is the release area on the east side of the building, up to and including the east surface of the building. Area 4 is the large area of snow covered tundra extending out to the west. Crews are currently working westward into Area 4.

Work has been postponed in Area 1 so that the root cause investigation team can observe what initial conditions were present when the release occurred. The team is expected to arrive on April 15 or 16, 2005. Clean up work in this area will begin once the investigation team allows.

A plan to clean off the buildings, tanks, pipelines and other structures is being designed. Another crew will be brought in to handle this part of the clean up.

SOURCE CONTROL: The pipe was closed off by valves and then blinded at both ends.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: The majority of the oil sprayed on the manifold building, surrounding structures, and on the gravel pad area. Most of the snow covered tundra was lightly misted.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: BPXA will continue to remove recoverable oil from the snow-covered tundra, beneath the manifold building. Crews will continue proceeding westward picking up oiled snow across the tundra. Snow fencing is being prepared in case strong winds threaten to spread oil beyond current boundaries.

Plans to clean up structures and pipes on the pad are being finalized. Current crews will deploy protective measures to keep oil from the structures and pipes from re-contaminating cleaned areas. It is anticipated that structural clean-up will begin early next week.

The root cause investigation is anticipated to commence within two days to determine the exact cause of the release. Upon completion of the investigation the responders will clean up the area east of the manifold building.

WEATHER: Clear skies, temperature -4°F, with winds from the east at 16 MPH resulting in a wind chill of -25°F.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Roger Reddin, BPXA
 F.O.S.C. : Carl Lautenberger, USEPA
 S.O.S.C. : Ed Meggert, ADEC
 Field S.O.S.C.: Toivo Luick, ADEC

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Ed Meggert (907) 451-2124.

Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing at:

http://www.state.ak.us/dec/spar/perp/response/sum_fy05/050412301/050412301_index.htm

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed via email to the Governor's office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, USEPA, USDOJ, NMFS, USFWS, and USFS in addition to the following.

STATE AGENCY	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFO	TELEPHONE	FAX
ADNR	Leon Lynch/ Gary Schultz/ Larry Byrne	Fax		451-2724/ 451-2732	451-2751 or 659-2965
ADNR (Habitat)	Al Ott/Jack Winters	Fax		459-7285 or 459-7279	456-3091
AOGCC		Fax			276-7542
Attorney General Office	Cam Leonard/ Mary Lundquist	Fax		451- 2811/451- 2914	451-2985
OTHER	NAME	Sent Via	Session/Interim	Telephone	Facsimile
USEPA	Carl Lautenberger	Fax		271-3616	271-3424
Legislator (House 40)	Reggie Joule (D)	Fax	Kotzebue	465-4833 or (800) 782- 4833	465-4586
Legislator (Senate T)	Donnie Olson (D)	Fax	Nome	465-3707	465-4821
North Slope Borough		Fax	Mayor	852-0200	852-0337
Senator Murkowski's Washington DC Office		Fax	North Slope only	(202) 224- 6665	(202) 224- 5301
Senator Murkowski's Office in Fairbanks		Fax	North Slope only	456-0233	451-7146