

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

**SITUATION REPORT**

**INCIDENT NAME:** Alpine Pipeline Weld Crack

**SITREP#:** 1

**SPILL NUMBER:** 05399935201

**LEDGER CODE:** Not requested.

**TIME/DATE OF SPILL:** A small amount of oil was discovered on December 18, 2005 beneath a weld pack during routine inspections by ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. (CPAI) pipeline inspection crew. CPAI reported the spill to the Alaska State Trooper Dispatch. The dispatcher immediately notified ADEC on January 2, 2006 at 10:36 pm.

**TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT:** 4:30 PM, January 4, 2006.

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** As the situation warrants.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** CPAI estimates that approximately 1 tablespoon of Alpine crude oil was spilled.

**LOCATION:** Mile 17 of the 35 mile Alpine oil transmission pipeline that runs from the Alpine oil field to the Central Processing Facility (CPF) 2 in Kuparuk, between Vertical Support Member (VSM) 1834 & 1835.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** Weld failure.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** CPAI

**RESPONSE ACTION:** The pipeline inspection crew discovered oil (estimated to be a tablespoon of oil) from an undetermined source on December 18, 2005. It was thought, at that time, that the oil was weld pack paste. Weld pack paste aids in preventing corrosion around weld points. Samples of the oil were taken and sent to the Kuparuk laboratory for analysis.

On January 2, 2006, the results of the sample analysis indicated that the oil was Alpine crude oil and not weld pack paste. CPAI initiated inspections of the Alpine crude oil line, which is a DOT regulated pipeline. Although an initial inspection did not reveal any leaks, a subsequent inspection found oil "weeping" at a weld. No additional oil accumulations were found on the ground. Spill containment has been placed under the pipeline as a precautionary measure.

CPAI has developed a pipeline repair plan. This plan has been reviewed and approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety. CPAI has also submitted a waste management plan to ADEC's Prevention and Emergency Response Program on January 3, 2006. This plan has been approved.

Alpine typically averages 130,000 barrels daily through their pipeline. Oil flow was reduced shortly after the weld deformity was discovered. Current oil flow is now averaging between 110,000 and 115,000 barrels per day.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** The flow rate of the pipeline has been reduced resulting in reduced line pressure and mitigation of any additional weeping from the weld.

**RESOURCES AFFECTED:** Snow covered tundra.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** The repairs to the pipeline will begin today. It is expected that the pipeline will be repaired within 48 to 72 hours after commencement. The repair plan includes the welding of a sleeve onto the pipeline. Oil flow rate is expected to be further reduced during the welding operation. The level of production cut will not be known until the repair job begins. An investigation team will be formed to investigate the cause for the pipeline weld deformity.

**WEATHER:** Cloudy, -17 degrees Fahrenheit, winds at 10 mph from the NE.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander ..... Warren Dobson, CPAI  
 F.O.S.C..... Carl Lautenberger, EPA  
 S.O.S.C..... Ed Meggert, DEC

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Amanda Stark 451-2175 or 460-7250.

**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.

<b>Agency/Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sent via</b>	<b>Additional Info</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>FAX</b>
ADNR	Leon Lynch/ Gary Schultz	Fax		451-2724/ 451-2732	451-2751
ADNR (Habitat)	Al Ott/Jack Winters	Fax		459-7285 or 459-7279	456-3091
USEPA	Matt Carr/ Carl Lautenberger	Fax		271-5083 or 257-1342	271-3424
AOGCC		Fax			276-7542
Attorney General Office	Cam Leonard/ Mary Lundquist	Fax		451-2811/451-2914	451-2985
<b>Legislature</b>					
Senator Murkowski’s Washington DC Office	Chief of Staff	Fax	North Slope only	(202) 224-6665	(202) 224- 5301
Senator Murkowski’s Office in Fairbanks		Fax	North Slope only	456-0233	451-7146
<b>Other Agencies:</b>					
North Slope Borough		Fax	Mayor	852-0200	852-0337
North Slope Borough	Bill Peidlow	Fax	Fuel Manager	852-0250 x 239	852-0251