



AK
Department of
Environmental
Conservation



North
Slope
Borough

**Prudhoe Bay GC2 Spill Incident
Joint Information Center (JIC)
NEWS RELEASE - March 3, 2006**

**Contact: Joint Information Center
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE 1: Response Continues on Prudhoe Bay Spill

Anchorage, Alaska – Members of BP's Prudhoe Bay organization continue their efforts to clean-up the crude oil spill from a 34" transit line between two gathering centers on the North Slope.

Site safety and security are top priorities in the response, as is minimizing and containing the environmental impact of the spill. The spill is contained by natural and man-made snow berms. Snow and frozen conditions allow for working on the tundra and minimizing damage from workers and oil contamination. Vacuum trucks are on-site recovering oil and so far about 500 barrels of liquids have been recovered. Spill volume estimates are not yet completed.

A 24-hour cleanup operation is in effect with 40 cleanup workers on site per 12 hour shift. Overnight and through the course of the day today, workers cleared snow to delineate the spill area. They also uncovered sections of the pipe in an effort to pinpoint the source of the spill. The leak source has not yet been located, and efforts are ongoing to locate it.

Gathering Center 2 (GC-2) is shut down and the line in question is blocked at each end and de-pressurized. Twelve well pads and about 230 wells have been shut-in and freeze protection put in place for those wells.

BP and its contract spill responders, in cooperation with state regulatory agencies, are managing recovery efforts. Agencies involved in the response include the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Response Center and the North Slope Borough.

Additional technical personnel are being mobilized to the slope for clean-up, line repair and business resumption.

For additional material from the Unified Command, please check the website at:
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/gc2>

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