

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: GC-2 Oil Transit Line Release

SITREP #: 17

SPILL NUMBER: 06399906101

LEDGER CODE: 14163060

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: The spill was first discovered by BPXA operators at 5:45 AM, March 2, 2006. The spill was reported to ADEC by the State Troopers at 6:15 AM, March 2, 2006.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 10:00 AM, March 17, 2006.

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 10:00 AM, March 20, 2006.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: Crude oil. At 7:45 AM, March 10, 2006, the Unified Command released the best available estimate on the volume of oil spilled. That estimate is between 201,000 and 267,000 gallons over a 1.93 acre area. This best available estimate is based upon calculations obtained by the Volume Estimation Team from a comprehensive survey which included extensive probing of the product depths and GPS mapping of the entire site. All estimates of the volume are from the best available information obtainable at this time.

LOCATION: A transit line between Gathering Center 2 (GC-2) and GC -1, Western Operating Unit, Prudhoe Bay, Alaska.

CAUSE OF SPILL: A quarter inch hole in the pipeline due to internal corrosion. The source was at the 6 o'clock position in an above ground 34-inch diameter crude oil transit pipeline. The leak is from a hole discovered in the pipe within a buried culvert (caribou crossing). A fact-finding investigation is underway with a team including BPXA and State of Alaska representatives and preliminary findings were jointly issued earlier this week.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): BP Exploration Alaska (BPXA)

RESPONSE ACTION: Weather on the North Slope remains very cold with night temperatures dipping to 70° below zero with the wind chill factor. Free flowing oil continues to be found and collected in the culvert at the caribou crossing. Second to personnel safety, recovery of oiled snow and the excavation of contaminated gravel from the caribou crossing continue to be the highest cleanup priority. As of 7:00 AM on March 17, 2006, the clean-up efforts have collected a total of: 63,546 gallons (1,513 bbls) of free flowing oil, 328 cubic yards of oil contaminated gravel and 5,044 cubic yards of oil contaminated snow.

Three ADEC oil spill response staff are on site monitoring the cleanup efforts 24 hours a day and participating in the BPXA Incident Management Team (IMT).

A trimming test, to evaluate tundra treatment through the removal of at least the top 3 inches of contaminated tundra, was conducted on March 16, 2006 and determined to be very successful. The final cutting depth was 3 inches, which seems to be optimal for the operation. Two trimmers were tested, a 40-inch wide and 72-inch wide cutter. The test results were reviewed by ADEC and an approval for continuing the operation was given today through the approval of the Tundra Treatment Plan.

The snow melting machines are on site and being brought on-line to melt the contaminated snow that has been collected. Two machines are expected to be up and running by close of business today and the third machine, the backup machine, is expected to be up and running shortly thereafter.

The IMT is operating at the Prudhoe Bay Operations Center (PBOC). The Anchorage Business Support Team (BST) in Anchorage has disbanded. The BP Prudhoe Bay Manager will assume all response and support duties. BPXA has started demobilizing its emergency response equipment and staff, as this response transitions from an emergency phase, to a long term cleanup project. Day shift crews will remain at 38 people and the night shift will be reduced to 10. This change is anticipated to be effective with the evening shift change on March 17, 2006.

SOURCE CONTROL: BP will inspect the pipeline around the site before restarting the pipeline at GC-2. In the meantime, this section remains shut down.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: A survey of the site has determined that at most 1.93 acres of tundra and frozen lake surface may have been impacted by this spill.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Additional response actions include determining the cause of the spill and if any additional or other potential defects exist along the GC-2 pipeline. Plans to inspect the surrounding pipeline prior to reopening the GC-2 facility operations are being worked on at this time.

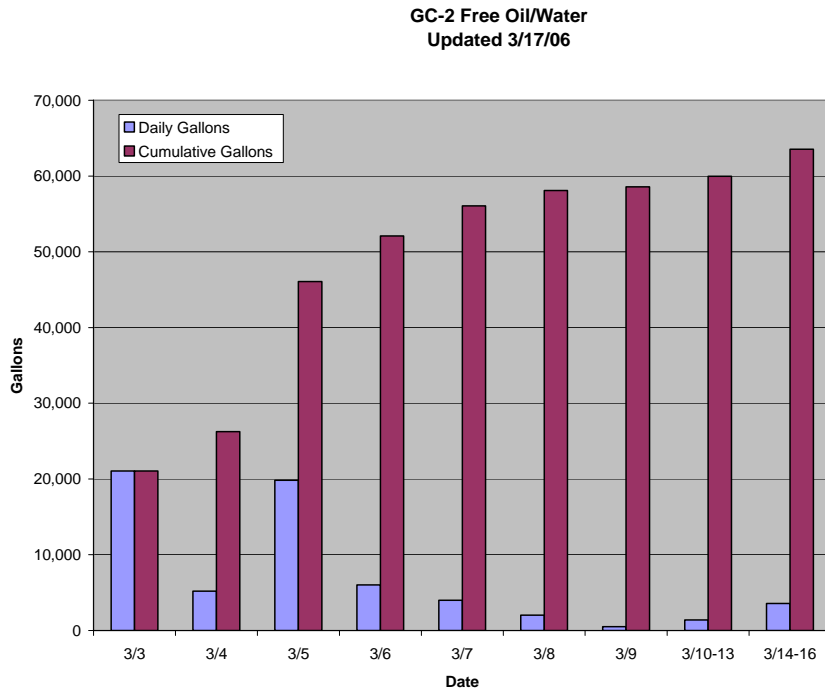
WEATHER: Mostly sunny, highs around 10°F below zero, east winds to 20 to 25 MPH with occasional blowing snow and a wind chill to 45 degrees below zero.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander:	James Fausett (BPXA)
F.O.S.C:	Jeff Rodin (EPA)
S.O.S.C:	Les Leatherberry (ADEC)
L.O.S.C:	Martha Ipalook-Falk (NSB)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynda Giguere (907) 465-5009 or (cell) 907-321-5491, Leslie Pearson (Cell) 907-244-3390

Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing at the following Unified Command website:
<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/gc2>



AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

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

Agency/Organization	Name	Sent via	Additional Info	Telephone	FAX
ADNR	Larry Byrne/ 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
ADF&G	Todd Nichols	Fax		459-7363	456-2259
USEPA	Matt Carr/ Carl Lautenberger	Fax		271-5083 or 257-1342	271-3424
AOGCC		Fax			276-7542
Attorney General Office	Breck Tostevin	email			
Attorney General Office	Cam Leonard	Fax		451-2811/451-2914	451-2985
Assistant Attorney General	Dan Cheyette	Fax		269-6345	269-7939
Legislature					
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
Legislator (Senate C)	Albert Kookesh (D)	Fax	Angoon	465-3473 or (888) 288-3473	465-2827
Legislator (Senate D)	Ralph Seekins (R)	Fax	Fairbanks	465-2327	465-5241
Legislator (Senate E)	Gary Wilken (R)	Fax	Fairbanks	465-3709	465-4714
Legislator (Senate F)	Gene Therriault (R)	Fax	North Pole	465-4797 or (800) 860-4797	465-3884
Legislator (Senate T)	Donnie Olson (D)	Fax	Nome	465-3707	465-4821
Legislator (House 6)	Woodie Salmon (D)	Fax	Beaver	465-4527 or (800) 491-4527	465-2197
Legislator (House 7)	Michael "Mike" Kelly (R)	Fax	Fairbanks	465-4976 or (800) 465-4976	465-3883
Legislator (House 8)	David Guttenberg (D)	Fax	Fairbanks	465-4457 or (800) 928-4457	465-3519
Legislator (House 9)	Jim Holm (R)	Fax	Fairbanks	465-3466 or (866) 465-3466	465-2937
Legislator (House 10)	Jay Ramras (R)	Fax	Fairbanks	465-3004 or (877) 465-3004	465-2070
Legislator (House 11)	John Coghill, Jr. (R)	Fax	North Pole	465-3719 or (877) 465-3719	465-3258
Legislator (House 39)	Richard Foster (D)	Fax	Nome	465-3789 or (800) 478-3789	465-3242
Legislator (House 40)	Reggie Joule (D)	Fax	Kotzebue	465-4833 or (800) 782-4833	465-4586
Other Agencies:					
North Slope Borough	Edward Sagan Itta	Fax	Mayor	852-0200	852-0337
North Slope Borough	Johnny Aiken	Fax	Planning Director	852-0440	852-5991