

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Selawik Tank Farm Release

SITREP #: 4

SPILL NUMBER: 08389902301

LEDGER CODE: 14248560

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: 3:00 PM on January 23, 2008. The spill was reported to ADEC by the Native Village of Selawik at 6:28 PM on January 23, 2008.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 3:00 PM on February 1, 2008.

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 3:00 PM on February 8, 2008.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The estimated spill volume is 5,385 gallons of diesel fuel No. 1. The estimated volume was calculated by the spill responders by measuring the size of the secondary containment and the depth of fuel. One ADEC responder is on-site and will review fuel records to attempt to determine a more accurate spill volume.

LOCATION: Selawik IRA Fuel Project, Selawik, about 75 miles east of Kotzebue.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The automatic shut off for the pump that transfers fuel from the storage tank to the day tank malfunctioned, causing the day tank to overfill.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Native Village of Selawik.

RESPONSE ACTION: All of the response equipment mobilized by ADEC and Crowley Marine Services has arrived at the spill site,. The Native Village of Selawik has assigned a total of six spill responders to work in two 12-hour shifts for the recovery effort. An estimated 1,450 gallons of fuel oil have been recovered and transferred to a tank dedicated to hold only the recovered oil. The recovery effort is going slow but steady due to cold windy conditions, layout of the tank farm, equipment breakdowns, and fresh snow in the fuel. The layout of the elevated tank farm is hindering the recovery of spilled fuel due to piping and tanks blocking access to the fuel and contaminated snow. The fresh snow in the fuel is freezing in the pumps and hoses. As the fuel level in the secondary containment drops, the efficiency of the recovery is expected to decrease. The decision will be made as to whether the remaining fuel should be left on site until the spring.

ADEC has maintained one responder at the spill site to help in the recovery effort and monitor the cleanup activities and is expected to remain on-site until the decision is made to temporarily suspend recovery operations.

SOURCE CONTROL: The fuel transfer pump has been shut down and fuel stopped spilling from the day tank.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: No fuel has been visually observed outside of the tank farm's secondary containment. The tank farm is elevated and there is no visual evidence of leakage from the secondary containment.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: All free standing fuel oil will be recovered and pumped back into fuel tanks located in the tank farm. Following recovery of the free standing fuel the site will be assessed for additional cleanup activities. One option is to allow the contaminated snow to remain in the secondary containment in the tank farm until spring, and the remaining fuel then separated from the water. The contaminated water will then be treated and discharged. The ADEC responder is on-site and will review fuel records to attempt to determine a more accurate spill volume and determine why the shut off switch malfunctioned and caused the spill.

WEATHER: -5 to -15 °F. Winds 10 mph, wind chill temperatures to -35° F.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Raven Sheldon, Native Village of Selawik
S.O.S.C. : Ed Meggert, ADEC
F.O.S.C. Matt Carr, EPA
Field S.O.S.C.: Paul Lhotka, ADEC

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

Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing at:

<http://www.state.ak.us/dec/spar/perp/index.htm>

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.

STATE AGENCY	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFO	TELEPHONE	FAX
Alaska State Troopers	Kotzebue	Fax		442-3222	442-3564
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	459-7303
ADF&G	Todd Nichols	Fax		459-7363	4597347
EPA	Matt Carr/Carl Lautenberger	Fax		271-5083 or 257-1342	271-3424
Attorney General Office	Cam Leonard/ Steve Mulder	Fax		451-2811/451-2914	451-2985/ 278-7022
Legislature					
Governor's Office (Fairbanks)	Palin/Parnell	Fax		451-2920	451-2858
Legislator (Senate T)	Donnie Olson (D)	Fax	Nome	465-3707	465-4821
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
North West Arctic Borough	Siikauraq Martha Whiting	Fax	Mayor	442-2500	442-2930