

THIS IS A DRILL • THIS IS A DRILL

## Unified Command: *Mutual Aid Drill 2008*

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Unified Command Provides Update to Drillsite 1C-172 Well Event

April 2, 2008 - Early this morning while Doyon was in the process of drilling a well for ConocoPhillips Alaska Inc., at Kuparuk on the North Slope of Alaska, the well experienced a valve failure on the well control equipment. Reservoir and drilling fluids are flowing out of the well and the rig crew has been evacuated.

All personnel have been accounted for, and no injuries have been reported. Crews are working to control the source and emergency response crews are onsite.

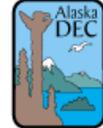
A Unified Command has been established, made up of ConocoPhillips, the Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the North Slope Borough. A Joint Information Center has also been activated. Emergency responders, including Alaska Clean Seas and other state and federal agencies, are on site.

Our highest priorities continue to be personnel safety, source control, minimizing additional impact to the environment, and protecting ecologically sensitive areas. A website has been created to keep the public updated regarding the incident, and we'll be posting information to the site as it becomes available.

**Contacts:** Joint Information Center, (907) 263-4564; Natalie Lowman, ConocoPhillips, 227-6064; Lynda Giguere, DEC, (907) 321-5491; Vivian Kinnaird, EPA, (907) 351-5413.

**UC Website:**

[www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/response/sum\\_fy08/mad2008/mad2008\\_index.htm](http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/perp/response/sum_fy08/mad2008/mad2008_index.htm)



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### FACT SHEET I

April 2, 2008

12:30 p.m.

**Event Summary:** A valve failure on well control equipment at Kuparuk Drillsite 1-C resulting in drilling fluids flowing out of the well onto the pad and subsequently onto the tundra. All personnel have been accounted for and no injuries have been reported. Crews are working to control the source and emergency response crews are onsite.

**Date:** April 2, 2008

**Time:** The incident was noticed at 6:40 a.m.

**Personnel:** No injuries

**Location:** Drillsite 1-C, Kuparuk, North Slope, Alaska

**Rig:** Doyon 15

#### **Type and Amount of Product Spilled:**

- Losing 1 to 2 barrels per minute

**Weather** – Temperatures are expected to be 20-30 degrees; expecting higher winds (10-25 mph shifting to southwest) Current temperature at 0900 was 15 degrees F

#### **Environmental concerns:**

- Lake in the vicinity is potentially threatened; Frozen to the ground and is not a fish-bearing lake
- We do not anticipate threats to subsistence resources
- There are no archeological or sensitive areas in the vicinity
- A polar bear and cub were sighted in the area: security crews are hazing them to keep them away from the incident site.
- In an unrelated incident a caribou has been killed by a response vehicle; driver is uninjured

**Response Action:**

- All personnel working on the rig were evacuated
- The affected area has been secured and a safety zone established
- All traffic to the C pad is being redirected and a security guard is in place at the site
- All ignition sources have been shut-off
- Mobile equipment has been removed from the vicinity
- Safety plan in the works; and a hot zone has been established
- Spill response crews are on scene
- Working to minimize the spill by snow/ice containment
- Heavy equipment has been mobilized to the scene

**Future Actions**

- Will work to minimize damage to the tundra and the lake through ice containment berms
- Fire equipment containment and recovery, and decon crews are on standby

**Objectives:**

- Personnel safety
- Source control
- Containment
- Environmental protection

**Notifications have been made to:**

- The Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
- National Response Center
- Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
- EPA
- Department of Natural Resources
- North Slope Borough
- Kukkpik Corporation
- Petroleum Systems Integrity Office

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