

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Glenn Highway Propane Truck Rollover

SITREP #: 4 and Final

SPILL NUMBER: 10239925601

LEDGER CODE: 14304160

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: This incident is a potential release resulting from a tractor-trailer rollover; no release has occurred. The incident occurred at approximately 9:30 AM on Monday, September 13, 2010. The Palmer Fire Department requested ADEC assistance in responding to the incident at 10:30 AM. Crowley Petroleum Distribution (Crowley) reported the incident to ADEC at 10:48 AM.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 11:30 AM on September 30, 2010

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: This is the final report.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: Potential release of liquefied propane gas. Responders have determined that the trailer tank, which contains approximately 9,000 gallons (roughly 35,000 pounds) of liquefied gas, is not leaking.

LOCATION: Near milepost 84.5 of the Glenn Highway, approximately one half mile west of Long Lake, about 24 miles east of Sutton and 80 miles northeast of Anchorage.

CAUSE OF SPILL: A Crowley semi truck towing a propane tank trailer traveling east on the Glenn Highway hit a guard rail and rolled. The truck remained pinned to the guard rail, but the 10,000-gallon capacity trailer separated from it, coming to rest approximately 440 feet down a steep, wooded slope. The cause of the incident has not been determined. Crowley reported that the driver was not injured.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Crowley Petroleum Distribution, Inc. (a subsidiary of Crowley Marine Services, Inc.)

RESPONSE ACTION: On September 17, 2010, at 9:00 PM, eight 420,000 BTU portable heaters were put on line to burn off the propane at approximately 5 gallons per hour each (40 gallons total per hour). On September 20, 2010, at 8:00 PM, an additional four heaters were put on line for a total of twelve heaters burning propane at a total rate of 60 gallons per hour. With regulators installed on the tank, pressure remained constant at approximately 60 psi throughout the burning process. On September 23, 2010, pressure in the tank had been greatly reduced by the majority of the product being burned off, and four burners were taken off line in order to increase the tank pressure to sustain the burning process. On September 29, 2010, at 12:20 PM, Crowley completed burning off all 9,000 gallons of propane and initiated final ventilation (gas freeing) of the tank in preparation for dragging the propane tank up the hill to the road side for removal.

SOURCE CONTROL: No leak has been detected.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: None at this time. No residences have been identified in the vicinity of the accident site.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The propane tank trailer will be winched uphill to the road side using a bulldozer. Crowley is working directly with Alaska Department of Transportation for complete removal of the wreck from the road side. ADEC will continue to monitor the wreck removal.

WEATHER: Today – cloudy with scattered showers, 44° F, winds 9 mph from the southeast. Tonight – rain, low in the mid 30°s to lower 40°s, variable winds 10 mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Walt Tague (Crowley Marine Services)
F.O.S.C.: n/a
S.O.S.C.: Gary Folley (ADEC)
Field S.O.S.C.: Mark Sielaff (ADEC)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Sielaff, ADEC, (907) 269-7532

Photographs and other spill information are available at: www.state.ak.us/dec/spar/perp/index.htm.

Motorists are advised to call 511 or check 511.alaska.gov for road advisories.

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders. The situation report was also distributed to the various agency staff listed on the standard distribution list. The receiving agencies listed in the standard distribution list includes: Governor’s office, Senator Begich’s office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, EPA, DOI, NMFS, and USFWS.

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER	NAME	Sent Via		Telephone	Facsimile
US EPA	Matt Carr	Fax		271-3616	271-6340
Mat-Su Borough	Borough Office	Fax		373-8800	376-0799
			Session/Interim		
House 14/Greater Wasilla	Wes Keller	Fax	Wasilla (5/16 - 1/09) / Juneau (1/10 - 5/15)	373-1842 / 465-2186	373-4729 / 465-3818
House 15/Willow	Mark Neuman	Fax	Willow (5/16 - 1/09) / Juneau (1/10 - 5/15)	376-2679 / 465-2679	373-4745 / 465-4822
Senate H/Palmer	Charlie Huggins	Fax	Wasilla (5/16 - 1/09) / Juneau (1/10 - 5/15)	376-4866 / 465-3878	373-4724 / 465-3265
Senate G/Mat-Su	Linda Menard	Fax	Mat-Su (5/16 - 1/09) / Juneau (1/10 - 5/15)	376-3370 / 465-6600	376-3157 / 465-3805



Twelve propane burners actively burning off propane, September 23, 2010. Photo by ADEC.