

Incident Name: Pump Station 1 Booster Pump Piping Incident

Source: Joint Information Center

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Web site: www.dec.alaska.gov/spar/ps1

FACT SHEET NUMBER: 6

Jan. 13, 2011, at noon

(New information underlined)

- The Unified Command's primary goal is to safely return the pipeline to full service while protecting people and the environment. The Unified Command is comprised of federal, state and Alyeska representatives.
- There are no injuries or known harm to the environment or wildlife due to this incident.

Current status:

- Between the time of the startup (9:03 p.m. Jan. 11) and noon today, crews have recovered around 135 barrels (5,670 gallons) from the containment basin at the leak site in the Pump Station 1 booster pump building basement. The total recovery estimate to date is 187 barrels (7,854 gallons).
- No oil has been discovered outside the building.
- The drain field below the piping where the leak occurred has three vertical corrugated metal pipes acting as drain-field sumps that are used to observe and collect liquid from the drain field. Through monitoring, so far, there is no evidence that there is oil below the gravel pad. The vertical pipes will be monitored hourly during the interim operations period.
- Two cleaning pigs are moving down the line.
 - A team of five people is monitoring the northernmost pig, which has been moving southward from Milepost 420.
 - At Pump Station 8 (Milepost 489.2), roughly 10 Alyeska employees and contractors are preparing to trap the pig between two valves in the main line and route crude oil around using a bypass line.
 - The pig should reach Pump Station 8 this evening.
 - The second pig, which started near Thompson Pass outside Valdez, should reach the Valdez Marine Terminal this evening.
- Fabrication of the 24-inch diameter bypass line continues in Fairbanks.
- The pipeline is scheduled to shut down again sometime in the next few days for about 36 hours to install the bypass pipe at Pump Station 1.
- There are now more than 550 people responding to the incident, including more than 335 people at Pump Station 1.
 - Specialized teams are working around the clock on the response's primary objectives:
 - Execute the interim startup plan;
 - Continue to recover oil from and clean up the booster pump building;
 - Determine whether oil escaped into the ground;
 - Isolate and bypass the compromised booster pump piping section;
 - Continue to prepare for both a standard and a cold restart of the TAPS line.

Weather at Pump Station 1:

<http://pafg.arh.noaa.gov/wmofcst.php?wmo=FPAK51PAFG&type=public#AKZ203>.

For background on the incident, including restart of the pipeline: dec.alaska.gov/spar/ps1.

Note: All times are Alaska Standard Time.

The Unified Command consists of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and Alyeska Pipeline Service Company.