

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: BPXA FS 2 Flare Pit Pipeline Leak

SITREP #: 1

SPILL NUMBER: 11399920201

LEDGER CODE: Requested

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: A BP Exploration Alaska (BPXA) employee discovered a release of produced fluids and crude oil in the primary flare containment of the Flow Station 2 (FS-2) facility in the Prudhoe Bay Unit at 2:30 PM on July 21, 2011. The spill was reported to the Alaska State Troopers at 5:11 PM. Alaska State Troopers reported the spill to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation after hour duty officer.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 3:00 PM on July 25, 2011

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: As the situation warrants.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: BPXA estimates 200 gallons of produced fluids released into three of the four fresh water filled, flare containments at FS-2. The fluids released contain approximately 140 gallons of produced water and 60 gallons of crude oil. Three flare pits have a bath-tub ring of black oil that varies from two to 14-inches, and sheen was observed in the water.

LOCATION: Flow Station 2 Production Facility, East Operating Area, Prudhoe Bay Unit.

CAUSE OF SPILL: Multiple flare lines extend into a designated flare area at the FS-2 production center. Normal operations are processed through a continuous burning flare, while episodic events of gas surges are directed through other flare piping circuits. Produced fluids entering the FS-2 facility contain brine water, crude oil, natural gas, and other volatile products that are separated into sales grade crude oil, conditioned gas, or water for reinjection. The final flare piping circuit allows produced fluids that passed into a surge tank during an episodic gas event to release into a six-inch "liquid" flare line. The release was discovered after a BPXA employee "walked-down" the flare field after a black smoke release occurred. FS-2 was shut-in one-day after the release was discovered. The cause of the spill is under investigation.

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

RESPONSE ACTION: Twenty-seven spill responders were brought into the cleanup, working two, twelve-hour shifts, to remove the oiled bath-tub ring around the water edge of the gravel bermed flare pits. Spill responders are using skid steer loaders, super-suckers and hand tools to remove the visually stained soil. Shore seal containment boom was installed around sheen that accumulated along a shore zone blown from the prevailing wind. Passive wildlife hazing resources were installed, although no wildlife or migratory waterfowl have been observed. Responders removed approximately 48-cubic yards of visually stained gravel from the area.

BPXA estimates that FS-2 will be down for at least four more days as the corrosion inspection crews acquire data from the six-inch liquid flare line, install new igniters and electronic circuits on the two main flare lines, and reestablish gravel to berms surrounding the flare pits.

BPXA is developing a pipeline repair plan that will allow production through FS-2. Gravel installation shall be sequenced into the schedule after clean-up crews demobilize. One ADEC responder has traveled to the North Slope for cleanup monitoring.

SOURCE CONTROL: The FS-2 production facility is shut-in, thereby controlling the source.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: The spill area covered approximately 2,900 square feet of gravel soil along the water edge. There is no evidence that the released product has migrated away from the area adjacent to the pad.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: BPXA will perform the following work prior to the restart of FS-2: remove the oil-stained gravel, oiled tundra, and sheen from the water; install approximately 1,500 cubic-yards of gravel on existing berms; install two flare igniters and the control electronics; and complete a pipe repair and mitigation plan. BPXA estimates the FS-2 restart will occur in approximately four-days.

WEATHER: Overcast, temperature 46°F, east winds at 12 mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Sohrab Tafreshi
 F.O.S.C.: Matt Carr
 S.O.S.C.: John Ebel
 Field O.S.C.: Ashley Anderson

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: John Ebel at 907-451-2102.

Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing at:

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

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFO	TELEPHONE	FAX
ADNR	Melissa Head/ Sean Willison	Fax		451-2732/ 451-2719/ 451-2724	451-2751 or 659-2965
AF&G (Habitat)	Al Ott/Jack Winters	Email		459-7285 or 459-7279	459-7303
AOGCC		Fax			276-7542
Coast Guard	Captain Fosdick	Fax			271-6751
Attorney General Office	Cam Leonard/ Steve Mulder	Email		451-2811/451-2914	451-2985/ 278-7022
Governor's Office (Fairbanks)	Parnell/Campbell	Email		451-2920	451-2858
Lt. Governor's Office (Juneau)	Parnell/Campbell	Email			465-5400
Senator Murkowski's Washington DC Office	Chief of Staff	Email	North Slope only	(202) 224-6665	(202) 224-5301
Senator Murkowski's Office in Fairbanks		Email	North Slope only	456-0233	451-7146
Legislator (Senate F)	John Coghill, Jr. (R)	Email	North Pole	465-4797 or (800) 860-4797	465-3884
Legislator (Senate T)	Donnie Olson (D)	Email	Nome	465-3707	465-4821
Legislator (House 12)	Eric Feige	Email	Valdez	269-0129	269-0128
Legislator (House 40)	Reggie Joule (D)	Email	Kotzebue	465-4833 or (800)	465-4586

				782-4833	
North Slope Borough	Edward Sagaan Itta	Fax	Mayor	852-0200	852-0337
North Slope Borough	Dan Forster	Fax	Planning Director	852-0440	852-5991

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, ADNRR, SECC, EPA, DOI, NMFS, and USFWS.



Bathtub ring surrounding the FS-2 flare pit.



Oil impact along the shore zone of the FS-2 flare pit.