



October 2, 2014

UNIFIED COMMAND ESTABLISHED IN RESPONSE TO FIRE ON BOARD BAKER OFFSHORE PLATFORM

Nikiski, Alaska - A unified command has been established and continues to respond to a fire that occurred aboard the Baker natural gas platform in Cook Inlet near Nikiski Thursday.

The unified command consists of the Coast Guard, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and Alaska Hilcorp, LLC.

All personnel on board were evacuated safely by helicopter. No wildlife has been impacted by the fire. No spill to Cook Inlet has been observed or reported at this time.

At this time the response is still ongoing. A five-mile, no-fly safety zone at 5,000 feet and a two-mile maritime safety zone have been established around the platform.

The Coast Guard has dispatched an MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter crew and an HC-130 airplane crew to conduct an overflight of the platform. The Coast Guard Cutters SPAR, Sycamore and Mustang were also launched to provide assistance but were released from the response.

"Our priority right now is to ensure the safety of the public and our responders by getting this fire under control and to monitor the site for signs of pollution," said Capt. Paul Mehler, federal on-scene coordinator and Coast Guard Sector Anchorage commander. "Personnel responding to this incident will remain on scene until we know this fire is extinguished and the waterway is safe."

Media can reach the unified command's joint information center via:

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