

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

# SITUATION REPORT

## Changes from the previous SITREP are denoted in red

### B Street Klawock, 6317 Transformer Oil

**SITREP #: 4 and Final** 

SPILL #: 16119904704

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 1:00 pm, March 18, 2016

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** There are multiple potential responsible parties. ADEC has identified a group of individuals who dumped the oil, and Alaska Power and Telephone (APT), the owner of the transformers, as being PRPs.

INCIDENT LOCATION: 6317 B Street, Klawock, Alaska

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: January 30-31, 2016

**HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED:** The spill was reported to the National Response Center by an individual involved in the dumping of the oil at 9:37 pm, February 16, 2016.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** The initial report by one of the individuals involved in the oil dumping estimated 200 gallons of oil was spilled. APT told ADEC that 13 of the transformers had been drained of oil and estimates that the total aggregate of oil in the four full transformers was approximately 34 gallons. APT said that the drained transformers would contain approximately one pint of oil each. The total oil volume in the 17 transformers would have been approximately 36 gallons. APT provided ADEC with testing results on the oil in the transformers. Only two transformers had oil containing PCBs above non-detect: one had 5 ppm PCB and the other had 2 ppm PCB.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** The spill was caused when a group of individuals dumped the oil from 17 transformers into a small creek and adjacent soil while trying to recover copper from the transformers. Further investigation into the cause of the spill and the acquisition of the transformers by the individuals is being pursued by ADEC and the Klawock Police Department.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** The transformer cases, cores and parts have been recovered by APT and the Klawock Police Department.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** On February 23, 2016, an ADEC responder arrived on scene and collected soil samples to characterize the contamination. The samples were sent to a laboratory and analyzed. On March 14, 2016, the laboratory provided the results of the soil sample analysis to ADEC. The analysis revealed PCB levels far below the State of Alaska cleanup standard. The individuals directly involved in the dumping have received medical care from the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), Craig Public Health Center. The Klawock Fire Department (KFD) continues to maintain sorbent boom in the stream and control public access to the site to

protect the public. The City and ADEC posted public notice signs warning residents to avoid the taped off areas along the creek. Additional reports of remaining transformer parts in Klawock and Craig were received by the City on or about February 22, 2016. KFD, Craig and Klawock City Police, ADEC and APT responded to the reports and collected additional pieces of transformers and copper wiring from Klawock and Craig sites. There was no contaminated soil or sheen observed at the additional sites in Craig and Klawock.

**RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED:** Fish, birds and wildlife are present in the Klawock River and in the marine waters at the estuary of the Klawock River. ADEC has not received any reports of affected wildlife but did receive a report from the Craig Public Health Center that two dogs became ill. The owners reported the dogs were in close proximity to the spill site and/or oil, however, the cause of their illness has not been determined.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** ADEC's Contaminated Sites Program office in Juneau will continue to coordinate future actions with APT, DHSS medical staff, Klawock police and fire departments and local community, tribal organizations and state and federal resource agencies. KFD will monitor and deploy sorbent boom in the creek as needed to contain and recover oil sheening from the contaminated soil. The Prevention Preparedness and Response Program has transferred management of this site to the department's Contaminated Sites Program for future remediation.

#### PRIMARY AGENCIES AND PERSONNEL:

APT: Greg Mickelson SOSC: Bob Mattson, ADEC

ADEC Site Manager: Danielle Duncan, ADEC, Contaminated Sites Program

FOSC: Capt. Shannan Greene, USCG Klawock FD: Frank Peratrovich, Fire Chief DH&SS Craig: Colleen Watson, Craig Public Health Center DH&SS Tech Specialist: Sandrine Deglin, DPH-Epidemiology

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION: This is the final Situation Report.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Kayley Moen, ADEC (907) 465-5378.

For future site remediation questions: Danielle Duncan (907) 465-5207

This SITREP and additional photos will be available at the following website: http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/response/sum\_fy16/160131101/160131101\_index.htm

#### **AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:**

Please refer to the first sitrep, distributed February 21, 2016, for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The first sitrep can be found by following the link in the **Additional Information** box above.