



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

SITUATION REPORT



Big State Birch Lake Rollover Diesel Spill

SITREP # 2

SPILL #: 16309924901

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 2:30 p.m. September 6, 2016

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Big State Logistics, Inc.

INCIDENT LOCATION: Milepost 306 of the Richardson Highway

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: At approximately 2:30 p.m. on September 5, 2016

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The quantity released from the secondary tank was reported to ADEC as 3,571 gallons.

CAUSE OF SPILL: A fuel tanker truck hauling a tanker trailer north on the Richardson Highway experienced equipment failure. The tanker trailer was punctured in multiple locations at the time of impact.

SOURCE CONTROL: Source control has been completed. It appears that most of the product was released almost immediately after the secondary tank rolled over. Big State Logistics removed the remaining fuel from the tanker trailer and the tank was removed from the incident location Monday evening. The main fuel tank (carrying 9,000 gallons of #1 ultra-low sulfur diesel) and cab of the truck remained on the roadway and were not impacted during the incident. There were no injuries.

RESPONSE ACTION: Big State Logistics personnel and Salcha Fire and Rescue responded to the scene by 1:30 p.m. The Fairbanks North Star Borough Hazmat Team was also called out in response to the incident. The spill appears localized to a ditch immediately adjacent to the Richardson Highway southbound lane. Crews successfully blocked culverts north of the spill site that lead into Birch Lake utilizing tarps and soil. No fuel made it into Birch Lake. Soil berms were also established in the flow of the diesel to prevent further migration. While control of the site was being established crews began to pump off fuel from the tanker trailer. The Alaska State Troopers provided traffic control until flagger crews could be dispatched from Fairbanks. A representative from the Alaska Department of Transportation Commercial Vehicle Enforcement was on scene.

Representatives from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) arrived on site at 3:30 p.m. At this same time, flagger equipment arrived and flag crews took over traffic control. Pumping activities were still underway when ADEC arrived. At around 5:30 p.m. the tanker was up righted and towed to the highway so a trailer could be used to haul the damaged tanker off site. A vac truck was on site and was immediately able to begin recovering free product and water from the spill site following the removal of the damaged tanker.

A total of 14,420 gallons of oil and water mixture were transported to an aboveground storage tank at Organic Incineration Technology, Inc.

A Hydro-excavator was used to dig two recovery pits in the saturated area on the afternoon of September 6, 2016. Due to high groundwater conditions and an area of moist vegetation present on site the fuel is floating on the surface of the pooled water in the collection areas. These conditions are also aiding the sumps in collecting oil-water mixture. An additional two smaller sumps were put on site to aid in recovery.

The boundaries of the affected area have been measured on a daily basis. At this time the impacted area continues to increase, indicating that the incident has not stabilized.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Marsh land and a small roadside pond were impacted from the diesel release. There have been no reports of impacts to wildlife.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Recovery of diesel will continue through today. Big State Logistics, Inc. is working with ADEC to develop plans to recover impacted soil. While cleanup actions are being performed a traffic control plan will be implemented and flaggers will be on site to guide traffic.

Big State Logistics is coordinating with ADOT to develop a traffic control plan and temporary lane closure.

WEATHER: Today: Mostly cloudy conditions with no expected precipitation; with a high temperature of 45°F and winds from the W at 5 to 10 mph. As the day progresses, skies should clear and the wind is expected to decrease. Tomorrow, clear skies are expected with a high of 50°F and low of 28°F, winds light and variable.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Mervin Gilbertson, Big State Logistics, Inc.

SOSC: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION: As situation warrants

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom DeRuyter, SOSC, ADEC (907)451-2145

This SITREP and additional photos will be available at the following website:

http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/response/sr_active.htm



Photo of the pond that was impacted by the release after recovery of free standing liquids, including fuel was completed. The pond recharged with water, allowing for additional recovery, September 6, 2016. (John Ebel, ADEC)

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:

Please refer to the first sitrep distributed September 6, 2016 for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The link to the first sitrep can be found in the **Additional Information** box above.