

STATE OF ALASKA

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

**DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
CONTAMINATED SITES PROGRAM**

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File: 1530.38.008

April 23, 2007

Jeff Daniels
ERA Helicopters Inc
6160 Carl Brady Dr.
Anchorage, AK 99503

Re: Lot 4, Block 22, Yakutat Airport
ERA Aviation Yakutat
Reckey 2003110117001

The Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program, (ADEC) reviewed the report submitted by Oasis Environmental on behalf of ERA Helicopters concerning Lot 4 Block 22 at the Yakutat Airport. Based on the information in the report and the administrative record for this site, ADEC has determined the contamination remaining there does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. This determination will allow ADEC to conditionally close the case subject to the terms and conditions established in this document.

The following information was used in making this determination concerning the environmental status of the property.

Background

ERA Helicopters used the property as a base for aircraft operations in the 1970's. A hangar building (containing an office and sleeping quarters) and a fuel storage area (with dispensing equipment) were constructed on site. A ground water well just east of the hangar provided a drinking water source for the facility and a sewage lagoon (located on the adjacent property) served the ERA and neighboring facilities. ERA no longer uses the facility but currently leases the hangar to a local business.

A Phase I site assessment of the property was conducted in 2003 and included testing the drinking water well and field screening soil for contamination. The groundwater sample did not detect contamination but there were areas of soil impacts identified.

In 2004, a Phase II site assessment included sampling the drinking water well and excavation of contaminated soil from three areas. The drinking water sample was not contaminated but 115 tons of soil was excavated and transported off-site for treatment. The remaining DRO concentrations in soil were 2,400 mg/kg at the emergency generator drum storage excavation and 417 mg/kg at the jet fuel AST excavation. Further excavation of impacted soil was limited by shallow groundwater.

A 2006 site investigation included the installation of temporary ground water well points (approximately 6 to 8 feet below ground surface) that did not detect contamination above ADEC cleanup levels. It was concluded that residual soil contamination may remain on site but is of insufficient mass and/or concentration to impact groundwater.

Contaminants of Concern

Diesel range hydrocarbons (DRO)

Pathway Evaluation

The exposure pathways evaluated at this site include: include inhalation and ingestion. The migration pathways considered were to ground and surface water.

The concentrations of contamination did not exceed the regulatory levels considered protective of human health. However, the DRO levels in soil exceeded 18 AAC 75.341, Table B2 cleanup levels for migration to groundwater but there was no contamination detected in groundwater samples.

Cleanup Levels

The soil cleanup levels established for this site are the 18 AAC 75.341, Tables B1 and B2 (over 40-inch Zone) migration to groundwater pathway.

The groundwater cleanup levels established are the 18 AAC 75.345 Table C levels.

The soil cleanup level for unrestricted land use and off-site transport of subsurface material from the site is 230 mg/kg diesel range hydrocarbons (DRO).

ADEC Decision

The contaminant concentrations remaining on the ERA Yakutat Airport property were evaluated with regard to the potential exposure pathways and ADEC determined they do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. The residual DRO remaining on site will attenuate over time and site management controls are established to ensure contamination will not impact ground or surface water.

Based on the information provided to date, ADEC has determined that no further remedial action is required at the site and a conditional closure of the ERA Yakutat Airport facility is appropriate, subject to following conditions:

- 1 A Notice of Environmental Contamination will be recorded in the ADEC database to document that there are areas on the property where hazardous substance contamination may remain above the established cleanup levels.
- 2 Any proposal to transport soil or groundwater off site requires ADEC approval in accordance with 18 AAC 75.325(i).
- 3 ERA will submit for approval a monitoring plan to sample ground water again in three years to ensure that residual petroleum impacts to soil are not migrating in concentrations that exceed Table C cleanup levels.

This determination is in accordance with 18 AAC 75.380(d)(2) and does not preclude ADEC from requiring additional assessment and/or cleanup action if future information indicates that this site may pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Site Closure (without conditions) can be achieved when soil sampling confirms that all soil meets the most stringent 18 AAC 75.341 cleanup levels.

Appeal

Any person who disagrees with this decision may request an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 18 AAC 15.195 - .340 or an informal review by the Division Director in accordance with 18 AAC 15.185. Informal review requests must be delivered to the Division Director, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, PO Box 111800, Juneau, Alaska 99801-1800, within 15 days after receiving the department's decision reviewable under this section. Adjudicatory hearing requests must be delivered to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, PO Box 111800, Juneau, Alaska 99801-1800, within 30 days after the date of issuance of this letter, or within 30 days after the department issues a final decision under 18 AAC 15.185. If a hearing is not requested within 30 days, the right to appeal is waived.

If you have questions about this closure decision, please contact Bruce Wanstall at 907-465-5210 or email at Bruce_Wanstall@dec.state.ak.us,

Sincerely,



Jim Frechione
Program Manager
State & Private Sites Cleanup Program

cc: Darcy Bowers, Oasis Environmental