

STATE OF ALASKA

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

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File: 2404.38.001

January 14, 2010

Scott Berglund
Federal Aviation Administration
Environmental Section
AAL-471, FAA
222 W. 7th Ave, Box 14
Anchorage, AK 99513-7587

Re: **Record of Decision (ROD); FAA Aniak DF – UST 17-A-1**
Corrective Action Complete Determination
RecKey # 1995250022901; Hazard ID # 24930

Dear Mr. Berglund:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Contaminated Sites Program has completed a review of the FAA Aniak Station Direction Finder (DF) UST 17-A-01 Decommissioning Report. Based on the information provided to date, DEC has determined that the contaminant concentrations remaining at the site do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, and this site will be closed in the Contaminated Sites database.

Introduction

This decision is based on the administrative record, which is located in the offices of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation in Fairbanks, Alaska. This letter summarizes the decision process used to determine the environmental status of this site and provides a summary of the regulatory issues considered in the Cleanup Complete Determination.

Regulatory authority under which the site is being cleaned up:

18 AAC 75 and 18 AAC 78

Background

The FAA Aniak Direction Finder or Remote Communication Outlet (RCO) facility is located on the south bank of the Kuskokwim River in Section 10 of Township 17 North, Range 57 West, Seward Meridian, approximately 2 miles west of Aniak, Alaska. A 500 gallon single walled underground storage tank (UST) was installed at the site in 1966. The tank was only partially buried, with the top of the tank above ground surface on the west side of Building 401. The tank had most recently held diesel fuel but had previously been used to store gasoline.

Characterization Activities

During an in place tank assessment conducted in July 1995, stained soil was observed in a shallow depression a few feet from the tank. Sixteen soil samples were collected from surface samples and 3 soil borings. A sample collected from the soil stain approximately 1 foot below ground surface (bgs) detected diesel range organics (DRO) concentrations up to 2,500 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg). Concentrations decreased with depth and a sample from the same boring at 3 feet bgs detected DRO at 100 mg/kg. No samples other than the samples collected from this boring detected contamination above the Method 2 Migration to Groundwater cleanup levels. No benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX) analytes and only trace gasoline range organics (GRO) were detected in the samples.

Approximately one month later, the UST was decommissioned. 32 cubic yards of soil was excavated during the tank removal. Soil was segregated into clean and potentially contaminated stockpiles based on field screening and eleven confirmation samples were collected from the sidewalls and base of the excavation. Samples were analyzed for DRO, GRO, benzene, total BTEX, and lead. No analytes exceeded the most stringent Method 2 cleanup levels. The excavation was backfilled and contaminated soil from the excavation was treated in a biocell on site. The biocell is being tracked as a separate area of concern, and will be landspread on site when analytical sampling confirms the soil has met the applicable cleanup levels.

Contaminants of Concern

Diesel and gasoline range organics – all confirmation samples were below the most stringent Method 2 cleanup levels.

Pathway Evaluation

The exposure pathways for human health that were evaluated include the following: migration to groundwater, incidental ingestion of soil; inhalation of vapors in indoor and outdoor air, and dermal contact with soil. Groundwater near the building is 16 – 18 feet below ground surface, and samples taken at the bottom of the 8 foot deep excavation contained only trace amounts of petroleum contamination. Therefore, the migration to groundwater pathway is not considered complete. Diesel and gasoline range organics were detected in subsurface soil, but concentrations were far below the direct contact, ingestion and inhalation risk based cleanup levels and those pathways are also considered incomplete.

The exposure pathway analysis above was supported by the most recent DEC Exposure Tracking Model (ETM) ranking. The ETM results showed all pathways to be De Minimis Exposure, Exposure Controlled, or Pathway Incomplete.

ADEC Decision

The cleanup actions to date have served to remove a potential contaminant source, and adequately characterize the soil. The small volume of contaminated soil remaining at the site is expected to remediate naturally over time, and does not pose a risk to human health or the environment. Based on the information available, DEC has determined no further assessment or cleanup action is required, and this site will be designated as cleanup complete in the Department's database.

Although a Corrective Action Complete determination has been granted, DEC approval is required for off-site soil disposal in accordance with 18 AAC 78.600(h). It should be noted that movement or use of potentially contaminated soil in a manner that results in a violation of 18 AAC 70 water quality standards is unlawful.

This determination is in accordance with 18 AAC 78.276(f) and does not preclude DEC 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.

Appeal

Any person who disagrees with this decision may request an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 18 AAC 15.195 -18 AAC 15.340 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, Juneau, Alaska 99801, 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, Juneau, Alaska 99801, 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 the DEC project manager, Kim DeRuyter at (907) 451-2752.

Sincerely,



Fred Vreeman
Environmental Program Manager

Sincerely,



Kim DeRuyter
Environmental Program Specialist