



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of
Environmental Conservation**

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
Contaminated Sites Program

555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Main: 907.269.3083
Fax: 907.269.7687
www.dec.alaska.gov

File: 210.26.003

Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested
Article No.: 7016 1370 0000 0241 7618

September 6, 2016

Scott McManus, Superintendent
Alaska Gateway School District
P.O. Box 226
Tok, AK 99780

Re: Institutional Controls verification for Mentasta School, located at 6 Mentasta Village Road,
Mentasta Lake, AK 99780

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Contaminated Sites Program is conducting a review of its internal records with regard to numerous closed sites where follow up conditions (Institutional Controls) on the part of the responsible party were required. In the process we have identified Mentasta Elementary School as a site where we are lacking follow up information.

A condition of the no further remedial action planned (NFRAP) (see enclosed document) granted by DEC in 2006 for the Mentasta Elementary School is that monitoring of the school drinking water well should occur every other year. DEC records indicate that the last groundwater sampling event of the school drinking water well was in 2002. If monitoring has been conducted since DEC issued the NFRAP in 2006, please submit the results to DEC for evaluation. If no monitoring has been done since that date, arrangements need to be made to meet this requirement in order to verify that conditions remain protective.

At the time that the NFRAP was granted, the community of Mentasta was being served by water well at the washeteria and the well at the elementary school was no longer the primary water source for the community. In addition to the drinking water well monitoring requirement, please remember that the following Institutional Control applies to the above mentioned property as established in the NFRAP of 2006:
In accordance with 18 AAC 78.274(b), DEC approval must be obtained prior to removal and/or disposal of soil or groundwater from this site to an off-site location.

Failure of maintaining these requirements could mean that the Contaminated Sites Program could reopen this site and further remediation could be required. Currently the site conditions may not be protective of human health, safety or welfare, or the environment.

Please contact me by September 30, 2016 with your intentions regarding this site. I can be reached at (907) 269-3083 or nathan.maxwell@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Maxwell". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nathan Maxwell
Environmental Program Technician
Institutional Control Unit

Enclosure: 2006 No Further Remedial Action Planned Document

STATE OF ALASKA

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

FRANK MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

610 University Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709-3643
PHONE: (907) 451-2104
FAX: (907) 451-5105
www.dec.state.ak.us

File: 210.26.003

November 28, 2006

Al Weinberg
Alaska Gateway School District
PO Box 226
Tok, AK 99780

Re: Mentasta Elementary School
Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST)

Dear Mr. Weinberg:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program, (ADEC) reviewed the *NORTECH Underground Storage Tank Closure Assessment Report, Mentasta School* dated September 29, 1992. Based on the information from this report, the administrative file, and groundwater data supplied by the Gateway School District, ADEC has determined that soil contamination remains at the site above the most stringent 18 AAC 75.341 soil cleanup levels but the nature and extent of the contamination does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Please note that this determination is subject to site specific conditions and, if complied with, will require no further remedial action at this time. The following information was considered in making the determination on the environmental status of this site.

Background

In 1992, two 9,000 gallon underground storage tanks were removed from this site. It was reported that contaminated soil was present and appeared to be from overfills and releases in the location of the fill and vent pipes.

Approximately 200 cubic yards of soil was excavated and transported off site and stored on Gateway School District property in Tok. The highest level of contamination reported was 4500 milligrams per kilogram diesel range organics in one sidewall of the excavation. The soil was transported off site because the drinking water well on the school property also served as the water supply for the community. The well is 68 feet deep and has not detected any petroleum hydrocarbon contamination when sampled in 1992 and 2002.

The community of Mentasta is currently served by a water well at the washeteria and the elementary school well no longer is the primary water source for the community. There is also a drinking water well at the Mentasta Apartment Complex operated by the Copper River Regional

Housing Authority. That well is 140 feet deep and has been sampled with results showing no evidence of contamination in 1996, 1999 and 2002.

Pathways Evaluated

Pathways evaluated at the site include the human health pathways of ingestion (soil and water) and inhalation and the migration to groundwater pathway.

The contamination remaining on site does not exceed the health based cleanup levels for ingestion/inhalation. However, there is evidence that soil contamination remains at the limits of excavation above the cleanup levels for migration to groundwater. However, groundwater monitoring from the school and apartment wells indicates there have been no impacts to groundwater.

Cleanup Levels

The soil cleanup levels established for this site are: 18 AAC 75.341 Tables B1 and B2 "under 40 inch zone" migration to groundwater levels

The groundwater cleanup levels are: 18 AAC 75.345 Table C.

ADEC Decision

Based on the information provided to date, ADEC has determined that the cleanup actions employed at the Mentasta Elementary School have been effective in removing the source(s) of contamination at the site. The contamination remaining on site does not pose a risk to human health or the environment provided site specific conditions and/or controls are attached to the property.

ADEC requires no further remedial action subject to the following conditions:

1. A Notice of Environmental Contamination will be recorded on the ADEC Database identifying the nature and extent of contamination remaining on site.
2. In accordance with 18 AAC 78.274(b), ADEC approval must be obtained prior to removal and/or disposal of soil or groundwater from this site to an off-site location.
3. The school's drinking water well shall be monitored in accordance with a schedule and plan approved by ADEC.

Site closure (without conditions) can be achieved when soil sampling confirms that all soil meets the most stringent 18 AAC 75.341, migration to groundwater, Under 40 Inch Zone, cleanup levels.

In accordance with 18 AAC 78.276(f)(2) ADEC may require additional site assessment, monitoring, remediation, and/or other necessary actions at this facility should new information become available that indicates contamination at this site may pose a threat to human health or the environment.

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, PO Box 111800, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, Juneau, Alaska 99811-1800, within 15 days of the decision. Adjudicatory hearing requests must be delivered to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, PO Box 111800, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, Juneau, Alaska 99811-1800, within 30 days of the decision. If a hearing is not requested within 30 days, the right to appeal is waived.

If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Oelkers by phone at 907-451-2104 or via e-mail at Shannon_Oelkers@dec.state.ak.us.

Sincerely,



Shannon Oelkers
Environmental Program Specialist



Jim Frechione
Environmental Program Manager