

# STATE OF ALASKA

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

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

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March 1, 2005

Jon Clark  
Municipality of Anchorage  
Department of Property and Facility Management  
P.O. Box 196650  
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6650

RE: Municipality of Anchorage (MOA)  
Bering Street Maintenance Facility, 4333 Bering Street, Anchorage, Alaska  
Facility ID Number 1403, Event ID Number 2656

Dear Mr. Clark:

The Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program, (DEC) has completed review of the document titled "Groundwater Monitoring at Bering Street Maintenance Facility, 4333 Bering Street, Anchorage, Alaska dated June 24, 2003 prepared by Shannon & Wilson, Inc. Based on the information presented in that report, DEC has determined that the site does not pose an environmental risk and further cleanup action is not required.

This determination was made in accordance with the following information and is subject to any conditions listed below.

### **Background**

A 12,000 gallon gasoline underground storage tank (UST) was owned and operated by the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) since July 1986 in order to fuel municipal vehicles. The UST and its dispenser were removed from the site in October 1998. During the UST removal process, approximately 150 cubic yards of soil was excavated and segregated into two stockpiles.

Stockpile 1 (70 cubic yards) was considered "clean" and used as backfill in the UST excavation. Stockpile 2 (80 cubic yards) was transported off-site for thermal treatment. The sample results from stockpile 1 identified benzene as the only hazardous substance above the 18 AAC 75.341 Table B1 migration to groundwater level of 0.02 mg/kg. The benzene levels ranged from 0.0687 mg/kg to 0.129 mg/kg.

Soil samples collected from the limits of the excavation identified benzene and toluene concentrations above the 18 AAC 75.341 Table B1 levels of 0.02 mg/kg and 5.4 mg/kg

respectively. Benzene ranged from non-detect to 9.52 mg/kg and toluene from non-detect to 29.3 mg/kg.

A release investigation was then conducted to determine any impacts to groundwater at the site. Six soil borings were drilled and completed as groundwater monitoring wells. Groundwater was observed at approximately 10.5 feet below the ground surface (bgs). The initial sample results indicated that MW-2, positioned in the location of the former UST, contained 0.0104 mg/L benzene. This exceeded the 18 AAC 75.345 Table C level of 0.005 mg/L benzene. However, subsequent monitoring events did not detect benzene concentrations above regulatory levels.

The only other monitoring well that contained contamination was MW-4, positioned near the former dispenser island. The initial sample result detected 0.208 mg/L benzene but subsequent sample results from MW-4 indicate a decreasing trend in benzene concentrations over the last 3.5 years. The most recent sampling event on June 9, 2003 identified benzene at 0.0332 mg/L.

In order to evaluate potential impacts from any contaminant migration from this site, a water well search was conducted. A municipal water well is reportedly located near the site but the hydrogeology of the Anchorage area indicates that there is an aquitard between the shallow unconfined groundwater aquifer and the deeper aquifer used for drinking water. Therefore, there is no risk to the drinking water aquifer at this site. In addition, the Municipality of Anchorage has also reported that site is served by the municipal water system.

### **DEC Decision**

Based on the information provided to date, the remedial actions employed at the site have removed the source(s) of the contamination and the majority of soil impacted by any releases. There may be residual contamination remaining at the site but it does not pose a risk to human health or the environment. As a result of this action, DEC will not require any further cleanup action. This determination is subject to the following conditions:

1. Groundwater monitoring shall be required until the contamination levels are consistently below the 18 AAC 75.345 Table C cleanup levels. The MOA shall propose a monitoring schedule that allows for natural attenuation of the contaminants but at a frequency to ensure concentrations are not increasing or migrating. It is recommended that the next sample event be conducted in three years from the date of this decision. Any monitoring wells that will not be included in the long term monitoring plan shall be properly decommissioned in accordance with DEC standards.
2. The MOA shall submit a request to DEC in the event that any soil or groundwater are proposed to be transported from this site in accordance with 18 AAC 78.274(b).
3. In accordance with 18 AAC 78.276, additional investigation and cleanup may be required if new information is discovered which leads DEC to make a determination

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that the cleanup described in this decision is not protective of human health, safety, and welfare 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, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, Juneau, Alaska 99801, within 15 days after receiving the department's decision. 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 any questions or comments, please contact Dave Pikul at 269-7551.

Sincerely,



Jim Frechione  
Environmental Manager

cc: Anna B. Jones, S&W  
Dave Pikul, DEC