



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Environmental  
Conservation**

Division of Spill Prevention and Response  
Contaminated Sites Program

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January 9, 2017

File No: 2548.38.001

Aemon Wetmore  
FAA Alaska Region  
222 West 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., #14  
Anchorage, AK 99513-7587

Re: DEC Approval of the Decision Document for Six Burial Pits at the Federal Aviation Administration Station Farewell, Alaska (December 2016)

Dear Mr. Wetmore:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) completed review of *Decision Document for Six Burial Pits at the Federal Aviation Administration Station Farewell, Alaska*, on March 5, 2015. A response to comments (RTC) was received on March 7, 2016. DEC completed n RTC response on April 1, 2016. A draft final redline version of the document was received on May 6, 2016. A final was received on June 20, 2016. DEC made additional comments on July 8, and August 22, 2016 based on management feedback. A teleconference was held in September, 2016 to resolve the remaining comments. A final was received on December 5, 2016.

This document presented information necessary to support decisions regarding the cleanup status of six burial pit areas of concern (AOCs) located at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Station in Farewell, Alaska. The cleanup status for each AOC shall either be "Cleanup Complete" or "Further Action Required". Following receipt of the final, DEC compared the final concentrations for each site addressed in this document with the newly developed cleanup levels (CULs), promulgated on November 6, 2016 and determined that no changes were necessary. In addition, following internal DEC discussion, Contaminated Sites Program institutional controls (ICs) will not be necessary for landfill sites without a documented history of contamination. DEC now determines that several sites included in this decision document will have a "Cleanup Complete" determination rather than a "Further Action Required" and will be closed in the DEC Contaminated Sites Database. DEC Contaminated Sites Program staff recommends that the FAA follow through with placing permanent markers on the ground to identify the location of the buried solid waste and continue tracking information on these landfills internally, however, it is not a requirement under the Site Cleanup Rules in 18 AAC 75. The determinations for the sites included in this document are as follows:

- **North Sheep Creek Burial Pit:**
  - **Decision Document Recommendation:** Cleanup Complete. All contamination and debris was removed.
  - **DEC Concurs**

- **South Sheep Creek Burial Pit:**
  - **Decision Document Recommendation:** Further Action Required. All COCs are below the new CULs; Landfill ICs must be implemented prior to closure.
  - **DEC Determination:** Cleanup Complete
- **Burial Pit 1:**
  - **Decision Document Recommendation:** Further Action Required. Further investigation is required to determine if soil and groundwater are impacted by lead and mercury and whether cleanup or ICs must be implemented prior to closure.
  - **DEC Concurs**
- **Burial Pit 2:**
  - **Decision Document Recommendation:** Further Action Required. All COCs are below the CULs; Landfill ICs must be implemented prior to closure.
  - **DEC Determination:** Cleanup Complete
- **Burial Pit 3:**
  - **Decision Document Recommendation:** Further Action Required. All COCs are below the CULs; Landfill ICs must be implemented prior to closure.
  - **DEC Determination:** Cleanup Complete
- **Burial Pit 4:**
  - **Decision Document Recommendation:** Further Action Required. All COCs are below the CULs; Landfill ICs must be implemented prior to closure.
  - **DEC Determination:** Cleanup Complete

DEC will update the contaminated sites database entries to reflect these determinations. As stated in this document, a plan for the additional site activities needs to be in place within 18 months and the actions need to be completed within 3 years of this approval date.

Sincerely,

Recommended By

Monte Garroutte  
Environmental Program Specialist

Enclosure: Signature Page

Approved By

  
Kara Kusche  
Program Manager

### **1.3 Authorizing Signatures**

The undersigned parties concur with this Decision Document for the six burial pit sites located at the FAA Station in Farewell, Alaska. The undersigned parties agree that the subject sites, with the exception of Burial Pit 1 which contains additional work characterization recommendations, have been adequately characterized under 18 AAC 75.335 and achieved the applicable requirements under the site cleanup rules, subject to the following the conditions:

- Any proposal to transport soil or groundwater off-site requires ADEC approval in accordance with 18 AAC 75.325(i). A "site" [as defined by 18 AAC 75.900 (115)] means an area that is contaminated by the migration of hazardous substances from a source area, regardless of property ownership.
- Movement or use of contaminated material in a manner that results in a violation of 18 AAC 70 is prohibited.
- Under 18 AAC 75.380(d)(1), ADEC may require additional site characterization or cleanup action if new information is discovered which leads ADEC to make a determination that the cleanup described in this Document is not protective of human health, safety, and welfare or the environment.

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Aemon Wetmore  
Environmental Engineer  
Federal Aviation Administration

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Date

*Kara Kusche*  
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Kara Kusche  
Environmental Program Specialist  
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

*1/9/2017*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date