



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Environmental Conservation
DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
Contaminated Sites Program

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File: 160.26.003

October 4, 2018

Suzanne and John Howard
Central Corner
128 Steese Highway
Central, Alaska 99730

**Re: Decision Document: Crabb's Corner
Cleanup Complete Determination**

Dear Mrs. & Mr. Howard:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), Contaminated Sites Program has completed a review of the environmental records associated with the Crabb's Corner contaminated site located in Central. Based on the information provided to date, it has been determined that the contaminant concentrations remaining on site do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, and no further remedial action will be required unless new information becomes available that indicates residual contaminants may pose an unacceptable risk.

This Cleanup Complete determination is based on the administrative record for Crabb's Corner, which is located in the ADEC office in Fairbanks, Alaska. This decision letter summarizes the site history, cleanup actions and levels, and standard site closure conditions that apply.

Site Name and Location:

Crabb's Corner
Mile 128 Steese Highway
Central, Alaska 99730

Name and Mailing Address of Contact Party:

Suzanne and John Howard
Central Corner
128 Steese Highway
Central, Alaska 99730

DEC Site Identifiers:

File No.: 160.26.003
Hazard ID.: 24572

Regulatory Authority for Determination:

18 AAC 78 and 18 AAC 75

Site Description and Background

Central Corner is a restaurant, lodge, general store, and gas station on the corner of the Steese Highway and Circle Hot Springs Road in Central, Alaska. Crooked Creek is located approximately 500 feet (ft.) east of the site and an on-site drinking water well is located on the south side of the main building.

In 1993, the removal of two 3,000-gallon underground storage tanks (USTs), the fuel dispensing island, and associated piping was reported to ADEC. The tanks most likely stored unleaded gasoline and diesel. The excavation was approximately 10 ft. deep and groundwater was encountered at approximately 9 ft. deep. Following removal of the USTs, four soil samples were collected (two samples from beneath each tank) and analyzed for diesel range organics (DRO) only. DRO concentrations were below ADEC soil cleanup levels (not detected). Due to deficiencies in the site assessment required under 18 AAC 78.090, ADEC required additional investigation.

Cleanup Levels

During the site assessment activities at this site, samples were collected from soil and groundwater, and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), gasoline range organics (GRO), and diesel range organics (DRO). All soil sample results were below ADEC's Method 2 soil cleanup levels established in 18 AAC 75.341 (c & d), Table B1 and B2. All groundwater sample results were below ADEC's groundwater cleanup levels established in 18 AAC 75.345 (b)(1), Table C.

Characterization and Cleanup Activities

Additional investigation was completed in July 2018 through a new property owner and included installation and sampling of four soil borings and one temporary well point. A drinking water sample was also collected from the on-site drinking water well. Three soil borings were placed in the approximate location of the former tanks, and one was placed near the former dispenser. The well point was placed in an assumed downgradient direction, approximately 40 ft. from the former USTs.

One soil sample was collected from each boring. Low levels of DRO were found in two borings near the former UST location; however, these levels did not exceed ADEC soil cleanup levels. No other compounds were detected in the soil borings.

One groundwater sample was collected from the temporary well point. Chloromethane was detected in the monitoring well but the concentrations did not exceed the ADEC groundwater cleanup levels. Diesel range organics were also detected in both the temporary well point and the drinking water sample, but at concentrations that did not exceed the ADEC groundwater cleanup levels. The laboratory also indicated that the DRO results may have been the result of laboratory-based sample contamination and may not be associated with the site.

Cumulative Risk Evaluation

Pursuant to 18 AAC 78.600(d), when detectable contamination remains on-site following a cleanup, a cumulative risk determination must be made that the risk from hazardous substances does not exceed a cumulative carcinogenic risk standard of 1 in 100,000 across all exposure pathways, and does not exceed a cumulative non-carcinogenic risk standard at a hazard index of one across all exposure pathways.

Based on a review of the environmental record, ADEC has determined that residual contaminant concentrations meet the human health cumulative risk criteria for residential land use.

Exposure Pathway Evaluation

Following investigation and cleanup at the site, exposure to the remaining contaminants was evaluated using ADEC's Exposure Tracking Model (ETM). Exposure pathways are the conduits by which contamination may reach human or ecological receptors. ETM results show all pathways to be one of the following: De Minimis Exposure, Exposure Controlled, or Pathway Incomplete. A summary of this pathway evaluation is included in Table 2.

Table 2 – Exposure Pathway Evaluation

Pathway	Result	Explanation
Surface Soil Contact	De Minimis Exposure	Contamination is below the most stringent cleanup levels.
Sub-Surface Soil Contact	De Minimis Exposure	Contamination is below the most stringent cleanup levels.
Inhalation – Outdoor Air	De Minimis Exposure	Contamination is below the most stringent cleanup levels.
Inhalation – Indoor Air (vapor intrusion)	De Minimis Exposure	Contamination is below the most stringent cleanup levels.
Groundwater Ingestion	De Minimis Exposure	Contamination is below the most stringent cleanup levels.
Surface Water Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	Contamination did not reach surface water.
Wild and Farmed Foods Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	Contamination did not impact an area where wild or farmed food could be affected.
Exposure to Ecological Receptors	Pathway Incomplete	Contamination did not impact an area where ecological receptors could be affected.

Notes to Table 2: “De Minimis Exposure” means that in ADEC’s judgment receptors are unlikely to be adversely affected by the minimal volume or concentration of remaining contamination. “Pathway Incomplete” means that in ADEC’s judgment contamination has no potential to contact receptors. “Exposure Controlled” means there is an institutional control in place limiting land or groundwater use and there may be a physical barrier in place that prevents contact with residual contamination.

ADEC Decision

Soil and groundwater contamination at the site have been cleaned up to concentrations below the approved cleanup levels suitable for residential land use. This site will receive a “Cleanup Complete” designation on the Contaminated Sites Database, subject to the following standard conditions:

Standard Conditions

1. Any proposal to transport soil or groundwater from a site that is subject to the site cleanup rules or for which a written determination from the department has been made under 18 AAC 75.380(d)(1) that allows contamination to remain at the site above method two soil cleanup levels or groundwater cleanup levels listed in Table C requires ADEC approval in accordance with 18 AAC 78.600(h). A “site” as defined by 18 AAC 78.995(134), means an area that is contaminated, including areas contaminated by the migration of hazardous substances from a source area, regardless of property ownership.
2. Movement or use of contaminated material in a manner that results in a violation of 18 AAC 70 water quality standards is prohibited.
3. Groundwater throughout Alaska is protected for use as a water supply for drinking, culinary and food processing, agriculture including irrigation and stock watering, aquaculture, and industrial use. Contaminated site cleanup complete determinations are based on groundwater being considered a potential drinking water source. In the event that groundwater from this site is to be used for other purposes in the future, such as aquaculture, additional testing and treatment may be required to ensure the water is suitable for its intended use.

This determination is in accordance with 18 AAC 78.276(f) and does not preclude ADEC from requiring additional assessment and/or cleanup actions if future information indicates that contaminants at this site may pose an unacceptable risk to human health, safety or welfare, or to 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, 555 Cordova Street, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501-2617, within 20 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, P.O. Box 111800, Juneau, Alaska, 99811-1800, 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 feel free to contact me at (907) 451-2127, or email at janice.wiegers@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,



Janice Wieggers
Project Manager
DEC Contaminated Sites Program

cc (via email): Spill Prevention and Response, Cost Recovery Unit
Rodney Guritz, Arctic Data Services, LLC