THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
Contaminated Sites Program

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File: 2337.38.026, 2337.38.021, 2337.38.015, 2337.38.031, 2337.38.029

April 21, 2021

Kelley Nixon
Hilcorp Alaska, LLC.
3800 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 1400
Anchorage AK 99503

Re: Request for Work Plan Beluga River Field – Multiple Sites

Dear Ms. Nixon

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program (ADEC) has reviewed of the environmental records associated with five open sites in the Beluga River Field, located on the west side of Cook Inlet, near Tyonek, Alaska. Little activity has taken place at the open environmental sites in the past twenty years. ADEC requested a work plan by May 31, 2019 for five Beluga River Field sites to establish current environmental conditions. A work plan has not been received in our office and is overdue.

Beluga River 221-23 (2337.38.026)
In 1991 Diesel seepage was noted at the edge of a gravel pad. Amount of contamination is unknown.

Based on ADEC review of the file, DRO soil and groundwater contamination remains at the site in the area of the former north stockpile and the east side of the pad. The extent of contamination has not been determined. ADEC sent a letter (May 6, 2013) requesting further environmental site characterization work be conducted. Once the extent of contamination has been determined, ADEC will evaluate if the site meets current ADEC site closure requirements.

The goal of the assessment should be to determine if contaminates are expanding into the wetlands.

Beluga River 224-13 Well Site (2337.38.021)
In 1991 hydrocarbon contaminated soil from a diesel spill and crude oil contamination were identified. A closure request was submitted to our office in 1995. It appears from the environmental record that one monitoring well remains on site. Long term monitoring was established in 1997, but records do not indicate that sampling was conducted.

Please verify the number of wells on site and prepare a work plan for the sampling of the well or wells.

Beluga River Abandoned Diesel Tank Farm, (2337.38.015)
In 1992 hydrocarbon soil contamination was identified at the abandoned tank farm. The highest extractable petroleum hydrocarbon (EPH) concentrations in all borings were obtained at the water table 13 feet below grade. Samples from below the water table (14 to 15.5 feet) contained EPH concentrations ranging from 13 to 71 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg). Samples collected above the water table in all borings ranged from 460 mg/kg at 2.5 - 4 feet to 1,700 mg/kg at 8 - 9.5 feet.

Prepare a work plan for the sampling of existing monitoring wells.

Beluga River Pump Area Assessment (2337.38.031)
Soil contaminated with diesel and gasoline range hydrocarbons were identified in the pump area. Concentrations above 1,000 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) extractable petroleum hydrocarbons (EPH) were obtained east and south of the pump area excavation. Xylenes appear to be the predominant fraction of benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX) constituents. Diesel probably comprised the majority of released fuel.

Prepare a work plan for the sampling of existing monitoring wells.

Beluga River Tank Farm (2337.38.029)
A broad plume of extractable petroleum hydrocarbon (EPH) is centered north and east of the former tank farm facility. The plume appears to have originated from the former diesel pump building. The facility contained two 6,000-gallon diesel tanks, two 10,000-gallon diesel tanks and one 6,000-gallon gasoline tank. The gasoline tank was connected to an underground fuel line extending approximately 500 feet north. The underground fuel line served a gasoline dispenser pump located at a former garage. The diesel tanks were connected to lines supplying a diesel pump building immediately north of the facility. There was a significant groundwater monitoring network and groundwater remediation. Please determine the current groundwater quality.

Work plans should address all remaining data gaps preventing site closure, the condition of the monitoring wells, surveying existing wells, the adequacy the well network to assess groundwater plumes and the history of the site.

We are requiring a work plan be submitted to our office by May 28, 2021, for work to be conducted during the 2021 field season.

Sincerely,

Peter Campbell
ADEC Project manager