

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

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File: 780.26.001

December 3, 2004

Mr. Jim Swalling  
Federal Aviation Administration  
222 West Seventh Avenue, #14  
Anchorage, AK 99513-7587

Re: FAA Tanana VORTAC

Dear Mr. Swalling:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC or the Department) has reviewed the tank decommissioning reports for two underground storage tanks (USTs) previously located at the FAA Tanana VORTAC facility. This site is located at the airport in the village of Tanana on the shore of the Yukon River. Soil in this area consists of sand, gravel, and silt and depth to groundwater is greater than 20 feet below ground surface. Groundwater at this site is not used for drinking water and groundwater was not encountered during the removal of these tanks. Tank 15-A-1 was a 1,000-gallon diesel UST that was formerly used to store gasoline and tank 15-B-1 was a 515-gallon gasoline UST. Both tanks were decommissioned on August 28, 1997. Approximately 2 cubic yards of soil from the UST 15-A-1 excavation and approximately 60 cubic yards of soil from the UST 15-B-1 excavation were stockpiled based upon results of field screening. Three soil samples were collected from the UST 15-A-1 stockpile and analyzed for gasoline-range organics (GRO), benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX), diesel-range organics (DRO), and lead. GRO and BTEX were not detected in any sample. Low levels of DRO and lead were detected in all samples but concentrations were well below the ADEC cleanup levels. Seven soil samples were collected from the UST 15-B-1 stockpile and analyzed for GRO and BTEX. Low levels of various BTEX compounds and GRO were detected in all samples but concentrations were also well below ADEC cleanup levels. Two samples and a duplicate were collected from the bottom of the UST 15-A-1 excavation; four samples were collected from the sidewalls of the excavation. Concentrations of GRO, DRO, BTEX, and lead were either below ADEC cleanup levels or not detected. Two floor samples and four sidewall samples were collected from the UST 15-B-1 excavation. Concentrations of GRO and various BTEX compounds were either below ADEC cleanup levels or not detected. The detection limit for benzene in all samples slightly exceeded the ADEC Method Two, Table C cleanup level of 0.02 mg/kg. Detection limits were between 0.03 mg/kg and 0.05 mg/kg, however, benzene was not detected in any sample.

### Approved Cleanup Levels

The approved soil cleanup levels listed below are for Method Two, Under 40 Inch Zone. These cleanup levels can be found at 18 AAC 75.341(c), Tables B1 and B2.

<u>Contaminant</u>	<u>Cleanup Level (mg/kg)</u>
Diesel-Range Organics (DRO)	250
Gasoline-Range Organics (GRO)	300
Benzene	0.02
Toluene	5.4
Ethylbenzene	5.5
Xylenes	78
Lead	400

### Exposure Pathways

The ingestion, inhalation, and migration to groundwater pathways are incomplete for GRO, DRO, BTEX, and lead because all measured concentrations were below cleanup levels. Although the detection limits for benzene slightly exceeded the ADEC cleanup level, benzene was not detected in any sample. If benzene was present at levels between 0.02 and 0.05 mg/kg, it would likely not pose an ingestion risk because it is buried and groundwater at this site is not used as a drinking water source. Likewise, it would not pose an inhalation risk because there are no structures over the former excavations to trap potential vapors.

### Determination

The investigation and cleanup at the FAA Tanana VORTAC facility have met all requirements specified in 18 AAC 75 Article 3 - Discharge, Reporting, Cleanup, and Disposal of Oil and Other Hazardous Substances and 18 AAC 78, Underground Storage Tanks. The Department has determined that **No Further Action** is required at this site. This site will be formally closed in the ADEC leaking Underground Storage Tank database.

### Closure

In accordance with 18 AAC 75.380(d)(1) and 18 AAC 78.276, additional investigation and cleanup may be required if new information is discovered which leads ADEC to make a determination that the cleanup described in this decision is not protective of human health, safety, and welfare or the environment.

### Appeal

Any person who disagrees with this decision may request an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 18 AAC 15.195 — 18 AAC 15.310 or an informal review by the Division Director in accordance with 18 AAC 185 — 18 AAC 15.190. Informal review requests must be delivered to the Director of the Division of Spill Prevention and Response, 410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303, Juneau, Alaska 99801, within 15 days of receipt of this letter. 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 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.

Mr. Jim Swalling

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December 3, 2004

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (907) 451-2158 or via email at [sharon\\_richmond@dec.state.ak.us](mailto:sharon_richmond@dec.state.ak.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Richmond', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Sharon Richmond  
Environmental Specialist

