



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Environmental  
Conservation**

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE  
Contaminated Sites Program

410 Willoughby Ave  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
Main: 907-269-7528  
Fax: 907-269-7687  
www.dec.alaska.gov

DEC File No: 200.26.007

December 3, 2024

Mr. Dennis Layman  
Eagle Trading Company  
P. O. Box 36  
Eagle, Alaska 99738

Re: Decision Document: Eagle Trading Company  
Cleanup Complete Determination

Dear Mr. Layman,

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program (DEC) has completed a review of the environmental records associated with the Eagle Trading Company located at the corner of Adams and Front Street in Eagle. 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 information becomes available that indicates residual contaminants may pose an unacceptable risk.

This Cleanup Complete determination is based on the administrative record for the Eagle Trading Company maintained by DEC. This decision letter summarizes the site history, cleanup actions and levels, and site closure conditions that apply.

**Site Name and Location:**

Eagle Trading Company  
corner of Adams and Front Street  
Eagle, Alaska 99738

**Name and Mailing Address of Contact Party:**

Mr. Dennis Layman  
Eagle Trading Company  
P.O. Box 36  
Eagle, Alaska 99738

**DEC Site Identifiers:**

File No.: 200.26.007  
Hazard ID.: 24582

**Regulatory Authority for Determination:**

18 Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) 75 and 18 AAC 78

**Site Description and Background**

In 1993, a 1,000-gallon gasoline underground storage tank (UST) and associated infrastructure were removed from a gas station and general store at this site without environmental testing. In 1996, the property owner had the site investigated and petroleum contamination was confirmed at 11 feet below

ground surface (bgs), under the approximate location of the former fill pipe. A landspread was created on a nearby lot in 2008 with contaminated soil from the original tank location but it was subsequently washed away during catastrophic flooding in 2009.

### Contaminants of Concern

During the site investigation and cleanup activities at this site, samples were collected from soil and groundwater and analyzed for polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and gasoline range organics (GRO). Based on these analyses, the following contaminants were detected above the applicable cleanup levels and are considered Contaminants of Concern (COCs) at this site:

- GRO
- Benzene

### Cleanup Levels

Soil cleanup levels applicable to the site are the most stringent Method 2 cleanup levels for the under 40-inches of precipitation climate zone found in 18 AAC 75.341(c), Table B1 and 18 AAC 75.341(d), Table B2. Groundwater cleanup levels applicable to this site are found in 18 AAC 75.345, Table C.

**Table 1 – Approved Cleanup Levels**

Contaminant	Soil (mg/kg)	Groundwater (µg/L)
GRO	300	2,200
Benzene	0.022	4.6

Notes:

1. mg/kg = milligrams per kilogram
2. µg/L = micrograms per liter

### Characterization and Cleanup Activities

During the 1993 UST removal, no environmental testing or cleanup was conducted as required by state regulations. In 1996 contaminated soil was temporarily excavated and one soil sample was collected near the base of the former UST at approximately 11 feet bgs. The soil sample was analyzed for petroleum hydrocarbons. GRO was detected at 2,610 mg/kg and benzene was detected at 15.2 mg/kg. After the screening and sampling were completed, the contaminated soil was returned to the excavation area. At the time, it was estimated that 200 cubic yards (cy) of soil were contaminated.

In October 2008, after consultation with DEC, the landowner excavated the contaminated soil based on visual and olfactory evidence, as well as memory of the former tank location. The excavation removed 200 cy of soil with a maximum depth of 12 ft bgs. The contaminated soil was transported to a landspread built on a lot west of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street between Lincoln and Adams Ave.

In May 2009, ice on the Yukon River formed a dam downstream of Eagle, causing ice and water to flow into the community. The flooding was unprecedented for the area in written history, with entire buildings scoured away and photos showing water and ice up to the roofline of remaining buildings. The landfarm area was scoured by an estimated 5-10 feet of water and ice, and the contaminated soil was dispersed beyond recovery. Many fuel oil tanks and vehicles were damaged, leading to widespread surface releases of petroleum in the aftermath of the flood. In response to the flood, DEC sent consultants to test 38 drinking water wells in the town. No Table C exceedances were found, though one well had detectable concentrations of benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX) below the applicable cleanup levels.

In July 2024, DEC staff returned to the site to conduct soil sampling. The flood destroyed landmarks of the old gas station and no precise GPS coordinates were available, so the location of the site was dependent on the landowners' memory. Test pits were dug to 3-3.5 ft bgs using an excavator and boreholes advanced to 11-12 ft bgs within each test pit. Test pit locations are shown on Figure 1. Boreholes were field screened at multiple depths using heated-headspace photoionization detector (PID) samples and no results above 1 ppm were obtained from any borehole. No visual or olfactory evidence of contamination was observed. Analytical samples were taken at a variety of depths based on stratigraphy. Low-level detections of GRO, BTEX, and PAHs were found in all samples, but all were well below cleanup levels.

### Remaining Contamination

The maximum concentrations of contaminants remaining at the site are shown in Tables 2a and 2b. These concentrations are all below their respective approved cleanup levels.

**Table 2a – Maximum Contaminant Concentrations Remaining in Soil**

Contaminant	Soil (mg/kg)	Sample Location	Date Sampled
GRO	1.80	Test Pit 2	7/25/2024
Benzene	ND (0.0037)	All	7/25/2024

**Table 2b – Maximum Contaminant Concentrations Remaining in Groundwater**

Contaminant	Groundwater (µg/L)	Sample Location	Date Sampled
GRO	Not Sampled	n/a	n/a
Benzene	ND (1.0)	Eagle Firehouse Drinking Water Tap	5/22/2009

### 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 noncarcinogenic risk standard at a hazard index (HI) of 1 across all exposure pathways.

Based on a review of the environmental record, DEC 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 DEC'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**

<b>Pathway</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
Surface Soil Contact	Pathway Incomplete	Contamination was not detected in surface soil (0 to 2 feet below ground surface).
Subsurface Soil Contact	De Minimis Exposure	Contamination remains in the subsurface below human health (inclusive of direct contact) and ingestion levels in 18 AAC 75.341, Tables B1 and B2.
Inhalation – Outdoor Air	Pathway Incomplete	Contamination remains in the subsurface below the most stringent migration to groundwater cleanup levels.
Inhalation – Indoor Air (vapor intrusion)	Pathway Incomplete	Groundwater contaminant data did not contain concentrations above vapor intrusion screening levels.
Groundwater Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	Groundwater sample results show contaminant concentration below 18 AAC 75.345, Table C values.
Surface Water Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	Surface water is not used as a drinking water source in the vicinity of the site.
Wild and Farmed Foods Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	Contaminants of concern do not have the potential to bioaccumulate in plants or animals.
Exposure to Ecological Receptors	Pathway Incomplete	There are no concerns about exposure to ecological receptors.

## Notes:

1. “De Minimis Exposure” means that, in DEC’s judgment, the receptors are unlikely to be adversely affected by the minimal volume or concentration of remaining contamination.
2. “Pathway Incomplete” means that, in DEC’s judgment, the contamination has no potential to contact receptors.

**DEC 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.

DEC approval is required for movement and disposal of soil and/or groundwater subject to the Site Cleanup Rules, in accordance with 18 AAC 78.600(h). Since the cleanup at this site met the most stringent cleanup levels of 18 AAC 75.341, Tables B1 and B2 and 18 AAC 75.345, Table C, this letter will serve as your approval for future movement and disposal of soil associated with this release.

Movement or use of contaminated material in an ecologically sensitive area or in a manner that results in a violation of 18 AAC 70 water quality standards is prohibited. Furthermore, 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. If, in the future, groundwater from this site is to be used for other purposes, 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 DEC from requiring additional assessment and/or cleanup action if information indicates that contaminants at this site may pose an unacceptable risk to human health, safety, or welfare or to the environment.

**Informal Reviews and Adjudicatory Hearings**

A person authorized under a provision of 18 AAC 15 may request an informal review of a contested decision by the Division Director in accordance with 18 AAC 15.185 and/or an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 18 AAC 15.195 – 18 AAC 15.340. See DEC's "Appeal a DEC Decision" web page <https://dec.alaska.gov/commish/review-guidance/> for access to the required forms and guidance on the appeal process. Please provide a courtesy copy of the adjudicatory hearing request in an electronic format to the parties required to be served under 18 AAC 15.200. Requests must be submitted no later than the deadline specified in 18 AAC 15.

If you have questions about this closure decision, please feel free to contact me at (907) 465-5270, or via email at [Nick.Waldo@Alaska.gov](mailto:Nick.Waldo@Alaska.gov).

Sincerely,

Nick Waldo  
Project Manager

cc: DEC, Division of Spill Prevention and Response, Cost Recovery Unit

Figure 1: Eagle Trading Confirmation Sampling Test Pit Locations



Base imagery: Google Maps, 2024.