



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Environmental
Conservation**

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
Contaminated Sites Program

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DEC File No: 107.26.006

May 20, 2026

Kristina Smith
Installation Restoration Program
AFCEC CZRW
2310 Central Avenue, Suite B106
Eielson AFB, AK 99702

Re: Decision Document: Eielson AFB Hangar (SO504) Bldg 1344 Area #2, Hazard ID 1651
Cleanup Complete Determination

Dear Ms. Smith:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program (DEC) has completed a review of the environmental records associated with the Eielson AFB Hangar (SO504) Bldg 1344 Area #2 located at 588 Loop Access Road in Eielson Air Force Base (AFB). 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 Eielson AFB Hangar (SO504) Bldg 1344 Area #2 maintained by DEC. This decision letter summarizes the site history, cleanup actions and levels, and site closure conditions that apply.

Site Name and Location:

Eielson AFB Hangar (SO504) Bldg 1344 Area #2
588 Loop Access Road
Eielson AFB, Alaska 99702

Name and Mailing Address of Contact Party:

Kristina Smith
AFCEC CZRW
2310 Centrl Avenue, Suite B106

DEC Site Identifiers:

File No.: 107.26.006
Hazard ID.: 1651

Regulatory Authority for Determination:

18 Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) 75

Site Description and Background

Eielson AFB Facility 1344 is located on the southern side of Loop Access Road. The United States Air Force (USAF) reported five underground storage tanks (USTs) were installed next to the northern interior wall of building in 1987. In 1994, the five USTs were decommissioned and removed. Four of the tanks were closed under 18 AAC 78, which is documented in the database entry for Eielson AFB - Hangar - Building 1344 Area #2 (Hazard ID 24319). This site documents removal of Tank 23, which stored waste methylene chloride and is not regulated under 18 AAC 78.

After removal of Tank 23, methylene chloride was discovered in soil samples at concentrations above DEC cleanup levels. The volume and cause of the release was unknown. This letter discusses cleanup decision for Tank 23 under 18 AAC 75.

Groundwater in this area is also contaminated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination which is addressed in a separate site (Eielson AFB AFFF Area #12 Hangar Bldg 1344 (SS305P), Hazard ID 27003).

Contaminants of Concern

During the site investigation and cleanup activities at this site, samples were collected from soil and groundwater and analyzed for gasoline range organics (GRO), diesel range organics (DRO), residual range organics (RRO), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), total recoverable petroleum hydrocarbons (TRPH), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and metals.

Based on these analyses, the following contaminant was detected above the applicable cleanup levels and is considered a Contaminants of Concern (COCs) at this site:

- Methylene chloride

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)
Methylene chloride	0.33	110

Notes:

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

Characterization and Cleanup Activities

Tank 23 and its associated piping were disposed of at Fairbanks Metal & Equipment. The final excavation was approximately 6 to 6.5 feet below ground surface (ft bgs). Soil samples were collected 6 to 7 ft bgs from undisturbed soil at the excavation bottom and analyzed for DRO, GRO, BTEX, TRPH, and VOCs. One sample on the west end of the tank detected methylene chloride above the most stringent soil cleanup levels, reporting 0.41 mg/kg at 6 to 6.5 ft bgs (see attached figure for sample location.) However, methylene chloride was also present in the lab method blanks. The corresponding lab report was unavailable, and DEC was unable to determine the validity of the data. Additional investigation was requested.

In 2012, the source area was investigated near the northern, exterior sidewall of Facility 1344. Eleven surface and subsurface soil samples were collected from 0 to 9 ft bgs in three soil boring holes. One groundwater sample was collected from a collocated soil boring hole downgradient of the former tank location. Soil and groundwater samples were analyzed for GRO, DRO, RRO, VOCs, SVOCs, PCBs, and metals. Methylene chloride was not reported above soil or groundwater cleanup levels.

In 2016, additional source investigation was conducted on the northern side, downgradient of Facility 1344. Six subsurface soil samples were collected 30 ft northwest of the facility. Eight groundwater samples were collected from temporary monitoring wells 80 ft, north of the facility. Soil and groundwater samples were analyzed for GRO, DRO, RRO, VOCs, PAHs, and metals. Methylene chloride was not reported above soil and groundwater cleanup levels.

Groundwater was encountered at approximately 8.07 feet below ground surface (ft bgs) in 2016.

Cumulative Risk Evaluation

Pursuant to 18 AAC 75.325(g) 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

Pathway	Result	Explanation
Direct Contact with Surface Soil	Pathway Incomplete	Surface soil was excavated when the tank was removed. Methylene chloride is not expected to remain in surface soil (0 to 2 feet below ground surface).
Direct Contact with Subsurface Soil	De Minimis Exposure	Methylene chloride remains in the subsurface below human health and ingestion levels in 18 AAC 75.341, Tables B1.
Inhalation – Outdoor Air	De Minimis Exposure	Methylene chloride remains in the subsurface below human health and inhalation levels in 18 AAC 75.341, Tables B1.
Inhalation – Indoor Air (vapor intrusion)	De Minimis Exposure	Methylene chloride is not present above the most stringent soil cleanup levels. Risk via this pathway is considered insignificant.

Groundwater Ingestion	De Minimus Exposure	Methylene chloride in the groundwater is below cleanup levels in 18 AAC 75.345, Table C.
Surface Water Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	An unnamed waterbody is located with 0.18 miles of the site, but groundwater results indicate contamination has not migrated to surface water
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	Contaminants do not remain that will affect terrestrial or aquatic 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.
3. “Exposure Controlled” means there is an IC in place limiting land or groundwater use and there may be a physical barrier in place that prevents contact with residual contamination.

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 75.325(i). 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. Please note that soil and groundwater contamination from Eielson AFB AFFF Area #12 Hangar Bldg 1344 (SS305P) (DEC File 107.38.177, Hazard ID 27003) is present on the property and other restrictions regarding movement of contaminated soil or groundwater may apply.

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 75.380 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

Ms. Kristina Smith

May 20, 2026

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) 269-7527, or email at sarah.bernhardt@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

Sarah Bernhardt
Project Manager

Enclosures:

Figure A-18.3: SO504 VOCs in Soil PBR and non-PBR Sampling Results

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

