

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Spill Prevention and Response Prevention Preparedness and Response Program

## SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)



**Prudhoe Bay** 

## FS3 4941 Produced Water Release

SITREP #1

**SPILL #:** 19399929401

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 12:00 p.m. October 22, 2019

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): BP EXPLORATION (ALASKA), INC. (BPXA)

**INCIDENT LOCATION**: Module 4941 at Flow Station 3 (FS3), Eastern Operating Area in Prudhoe Bay, approximately 1 mile east of Pump Station 1 and approximately 4.5 miles northwest of Deadhorse. Lat/long: 70.255049, -148.572570.

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: October 21, 2019, 07:35 AK Standard Time.

**HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED:** BPXA employees discovered the spill inside Module 4941 at Flow Station 3 at 7:35 a.m. on October 21, 2019. BPXA reported the spill to ADEC at 9:39 a.m. October 21, 2019 after personnel were allowed to access to the spill area and confirm that the released product had escaped the module.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** The spilled product is produced water, which is a byproduct of oil production and normally contains small amount of crude oil (<1%), any additives introduced during the production/treatment process, and brine. The volume released is currently unknown but is being evaluated by BPXA.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** Preliminary reports indicate that the cause of the release was due to the separation of expansion joints on a suction header that connects to two produced water injection pumps within module 4941. The expansion joints on the header are believed to have parted due to a "water hammer" that was created when the two pumps shut down during a power outage.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** The source of the release has been controlled at this time.

**RESPONSE ACTION**: BPXA and Alaska Clean Seas (ACS) responders have been on site conducting containment and recovery actions since approx. 9:00 a.m. on October 21, 2019. Main focus has been on recovering pooled product on and off pad using vacuum trucks. The release occurred in Module 4941 and then leaked out of the module to two adjoining modules as well as the underlying and adjacent gravel pad, then migrated east across the pad and onto the snow covered tundra (see photo). ACS also conducted an UAV overflight with forward looking infrared radar (FLIR) capabilities to delineate the affected area. Responders have built a gravel berm on the pad to prevent any further migration of fluids to the tundra. The Tundra Treatment Manual is being consulted for tundra recovery tactics. ADEC has two responders in Deadhorse, both as part of the Incident Management Team and out in the field.

**RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED:** The size of the affected area is still under investigation, but product that migrated off pad appears to be contained on already existing ice within the polygonal troughs of the tundra. There have been no reports of impact to wildlife.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Response crews will continue removing pooled product on and off pad, the affected gravel on pad, and then initiate "flush and recover" tactic to remove the produced water on and off pad. ADEC will continue to monitor the response actions and review on going treatment and disposal plans being developed for the cleanup actions. FS3 remains shut down while BPXA works on plans for a repair.

**WEATHER**: Today: mostly cloudy with a few snow showers this morning; High 24°F; Winds South-Southwest at 5 to 10 mph; chance of snow 30%. Tomorrow: some sun in the morning with increasing clouds during the afternoon; High 21°F; South winds shifting to east-northeast at 10 to 15 mph.

## **UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander: Wendy Bosmans, BPXA

FOSC: Matt Carr, USEPA SOSC: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC LOSC: Allyson Atos, NSB Field SOSC: John Ebel, ADEC

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION**: As the situation warrants.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Achee, PIO, ADEC (907) 465-5009

Tom DeRuyter, ADEC (907) 451-2145



Image collected during an UAV overflight on 10/21/2019, showing the affected area (dark colored fluids on gravel pad and within tundra polygonal troughs). Image collected by ACS and provided by APSC.

**AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:** This situation report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list, which includes the governor's office, State Emergency Operations Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other state agencies. This situation report was also distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders:

AGENCY /	NAME	SENT	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELEPHONE	FAX
STAKEHOLDER		VIA			
BP Exploration Alaska, Inc	Wendy Bosmans	Email	Wendy.Bosmans@bp.com		
Senate T	Senator Donny Olson	Email	senator.donald.olson@akleg.gov Juneau (1/18-4/15) Nome (4/20-1/15)	465-3707 269-0254	465-4821 269-2031
House 40	Representative John Lincoln	Fax	representative.john.lincoln @akleg.gov	465-3473	
AOGCC		Fax			276-7542
ADF&G	Al Ott / Jack Winters	Email	al.ott@alaska.gov jack.winters@alaska.gov	459-7289 or 459-7285	
ADNR-DMLW	North Slope Team	Email	DNRDMLW.NorthernO&G@alaska.gov		
USCG-Sector /ANC	USCG-Anchorage	Fax		428-4100	428-4114 (24 hr)
US EPA	Bob Whittier/Matt Carr	Fax/Email	whittier.robert@epa.gov carr.matthew@epa.gov	206-553-1263 or 206-553- 1264	271-3424
Dept of Law Attorney General Office	Steven Mulder	Fax/Email	steve.mulder@alaska.gov	269-5274	278-7022

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