



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**  
**Division of Spill Prevention and Response**  
**Prevention Preparedness and Response Program**  
***SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)***



## **Wales School Tank Diesel Oil Release**

**SITREP #:** 1

**SPILL #:** 21389904801

**DATE/TIME OF DISTRIBUTION:** February 24, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

**POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP):** Bering Strait School District (BSSD)

**INCIDENT LOCATION:** Kingikmiut School - Wales, Alaska

**DATE/TIME OF SPILL:** February 17th, 2021, at 10:30 p.m.

**HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED:** The release was discovered by a Bering Strait School District maintenance worker on site the evening of February 17, 2021. The spill was reported to the US Coast Guard National Response Center at 11:15 p.m. on February 17, 2021 and to DEC at 8:45 a.m. on February 18, 2021.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** 1862 gallons of #2 Diesel was released from the storage tank. The exact amount released into the environment is still under investigation.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** A valve was left open when transferring fuel from a 10,000 gal storage tank to a 550 gal day tank. The day tank overfilled, releasing diesel on to the ground.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** The valve was closed which stopped the release of fuel.

**RESPONSE ACTION:** The Bering Strait School District has assembled a cleanup crew to work onsite. The crew has been working to delineate the spill site and collect diesel. So far 253 gallons of diesel have been collected and stored in drums onsite. The fuel is currently being collected from an excavated hole at a low point of the spill area.

**RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED:** The spill location is 150 yards from the Bering Sea and 15 yards from wetland tundra. Bering Strait School District responders on site do not believe these resources have been directly impacted at this time.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Representatives from the USCG are planning to visit the site on 2/24 to assist in evaluating the extent of the spill. DEC will continue working with the USCG and BSSD to develop plans for site cleanup activities and monitor for additional environmental impacts.

**WEATHER:** Today: High 4° F / Low of -13° F. Cloudy, light snow and fog. ENE 26-29mph winds.

**UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander: Sony Mashiana, Bering Strait School District

SOSC: Sarah Moore, DEC

FOSC: Nathan Hatfield, USCG

LOSC: Sony Mashiana, Bering Strait School District

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

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laurie Silfven, North Slope Northwest Arctic Unit Supervisor, DEC, (907) 269-7540 <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response>



Photo provided by Sony Mashiana, 2/21/21



Photo provided by Sony Mashiana, 2/21/21

**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:

<b>AGENCY / STAKEHOLDER</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>SENT VIA</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>FAX</b>
Bering Strait School District	Sony Mashiana				
<b>Senate T</b>	Donny Olson	Email	<a href="mailto:Senator.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov">Senator.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov</a> <a href="#">Juneau (1/18-4/15)</a> <a href="#">Anchorage (4/20-1/15)</a>	465-3707 269-0254	465-4821 269-2031
<b>House 39</b>	Neal Foster	Fax	<a href="mailto:Representative.neal.foster@akleg.gov">Representative.neal.foster@akleg.gov</a> <a href="#">Juneau (1/18-4/15)</a> <a href="#">Nome (4/20-1/15)</a>	465-3789 443-5036	465-3242 443-2162
Alaska State Troopers	Nome	Fax		443-2835	443-5840
ADF&G	Al Ott / Jack Winters	Email	<a href="mailto:al.ott@alaska.gov">al.ott@alaska.gov</a> <a href="mailto:jack.winters@alaska.gov">jack.winters@alaska.gov</a>	459-7289 or 459-7285	
USCG-Sector /ANC	USCG-Anchorage	Fax		428-4100	428-4114 (24 hr)
US EPA	Bob Whittier	Fax/Email	<a href="mailto:Whittier.robert@epa.gov">Whittier.robert@epa.gov</a>	206-553-1263 or 206-553-1264	271-3424
Dept of Law Attorney General Office	Steven Mulder	Fax/Email	<a href="mailto:Steve.mulder@alaska.gov">Steve.mulder@alaska.gov</a>	269-5274	278-7022
North West Arctic Borough Mayor	Lucy Nelson	Email	<a href="mailto:lnelson@nwabor.org">lnelson@nwabor.org</a>	442-2500	442-2930