



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



Savoonga AVEC Tank Farm Diesel Oil Release

SITREP #: 1

SPILL #: 21389906001

DATE/TIME OF DISTRIBUTION: March 2, 2021, at 12:45 p.m.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Alaska Village Electric Coop (AVEC)

INCIDENT LOCATION: Savoonga Power Plant in Savoonga, (63.694988/-170.475011).

DATE/TIME OF SPILL: February 27, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: The release was discovered by AVEC personnel on-site while taking inventory the afternoon of February 27, 2021. The spill was reported to the National Response Center (NRC) at 8:30 a.m. on March 1, 2021, and to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) at 8:45 a.m. on March 1, 2021.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: An estimated 15,000 to 20,000 gallons of #2 Diesel was released from a bulk oil storage tank into secondary containment. The quantity of the spill was estimated by AVEC personal on-site by reviewing current tank capacities against recent tank capacity records prior to the spill. The exact amount is still under investigation. Diesel has breached the secondary containment wall, potentially by wicking through snow drifts, affecting an estimated area of 2 square feet. The exact extent of the contaminated area outside of secondary containment is still under delineation.

CAUSE OF SPILL: A valve was added to a header line on a 29,950 gallon bulk fuel tank as a temporary fix to alleviate an airlock. The valve was not removed at the appropriate time and left in an open position allowing diesel to flow to the ground.

SOURCE CONTROL: It is believed the release has been stopped by shutting off the open valve. Fuel levels will be monitored daily to ensure that this corrective action has stopped the release.

RESPONSE ACTION: AVEC has assembled an on-site cleanup crew. The crew has been working to collect diesel and to delineate the extent of the spill outside of secondary containment. Sorbent boom has been placed outside of the secondary containment area under the diesel drip found to mitigate further spread. Contaminated snow from outside the secondary containment is being bagged and moved to within the secondary containment area. To date, 2838 gallons of diesel has been pumped from an excavated hole in the snow drifts at a low point within the secondary containment into an empty tank on-site. DEC and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) are monitoring off-site through phone conferences and email.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED: The spill location is approximately 450 feet from the Bering Sea and 65 feet from wetland tundra. AVEC responders on site do not believe these resources have been impacted at this time

and are continuing to investigate the extent of the spill outside of the secondary containment. DEC will continue to monitor the response actions and review plans being developed to clean up contaminated soils from the area and prevent diesel oil migration to nearby resources.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: DEC will continue to work with the USCG and AVEC to develop plans for site cleanup activities and monitor for additional environmental impacts.

WEATHER: Today: High -11° F / Low of -20° F. Mostly Sunny. Areas of blowing snow. N 30-35 mph winds, with gusts as high as 50 mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Scott Stiker, Alaska Village Electric Coop

SOSC: Sarah Moore, DEC

FOSC: Nathan Hatfield, USCG

LOSC: Leon Nayokpuk, Alaska Village Electric Coop

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Sarah Moore, Environmental Program Manager II, DEC,
(907) 465-5239 <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response>



Tank farm where spill was found outside of secondary containment area. (Photo provided by Scott Stiker, March 3, 2021)



The suction end of pump recovering product from an excavated hole in the snow drifts at a low point within the secondary containment. (Photo provided by Scott Stiker, March 1, 2021)

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 / STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	TELEPHONE	FAX
Alaska Village Electric Coop (AVEC)	Scott Stiker	Email	ssstiker@avec.org	907-565-5319	
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 39	Representative Neal Foster	Fax	representative.neal.foster@akleg.gov Juneau (1/18-4/15) Nome (4/20-1/15)	465-3789 443-5036	465-3242 443-2162
Alaska State Troopers	Nome	Fax		443-2835	443-5840
ADF&G	Todd Nichols	Email	todd.nichols@alaska.gov	907-459-7363	
USCG-Sector /ANC	USCG-Anchorage	Fax		428-4100	428-4114 (24 hr)
US EPA	Bob Whittier	Fax/Email	Whittier.robert@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
North West Arctic Borough Mayor	Lucy Nelson	Email	lnelson@nwabor.org	442-2500	442-2930