

**Department of Environmental Conservation
Response to Comments**

For

APDES Individual Permit

AK0055913 – Hilcorp Alaska, LLC

Tyonek Platform Supplemental Development Drilling

Public Noticed May 25, 2021 – June 25, 2021

June 28, 2021



**Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Wastewater Discharge Authorization Program
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501**

1 Introduction

1.1 Summary of Facility / Permit

The Permit is a new individual permit for oil and gas drilling activity related wastewater discharges at the Tyonek Platform in the Cook Inlet. The drilling operations covered by this proposed permit are intended to increase gas production at the facility and is expected to be a one-time authorization for discharges associated with development drilling planned for the summer of 2021. The proposed permit would have a maximum of a 5-year term.

Supplemental drilling operations would utilize the Spartan 151 Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit (MODU) or other similar MODU, which would be positioned over the existing Tyonek Platform. Drilling operations with the MODU necessitates authorization of the following five distinct wastewater discharges: Graywater; Blowout Preventer Fluid; Noncontact Cooling Water; Uncontaminated Ballast Water; and Excess Cement Slurry discharges.

The discharge of Graywater includes the authorization of a 35-meter radii chronic mixing zone and an 18-meter radii acute mixing zones for total residual chlorine. Authorization of miscellaneous discharges of blowout preventer fluid, noncontact cooling water, uncontaminated ballast water, and excess cement slurry includes a 100-meter radii chronic mixing zone. Lastly, the discharge of excess cement slurry includes authorization of a short-term zone of deposit.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (Department or DEC) proposes issue Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) Permit AK0055913 - Hilcorp Alaska LLC, Tyonek Platform Supplemental Development Drilling (Permit). This document presents comments received on the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet and provides Department responses to those comments.

1.2 Opportunities for Public Participation

The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC or Department) proposes to issue the Permit after considering all substantive public comments. To ensure participation by the public, agencies, and tribal and local governments during Permit reissuance, the Department:

- identified the permit on the annual Permit Issuance Plan posted online at: <http://www.dec.state.ak.us/water/wwdp/index.htm>;
- notified potentially affected tribes that the Department would be working on the Permit via letter, fax and/or email on April 2, 2021;
- posted the Preliminary Draft Permit on-line for a 5-day applicant review on May 19, 2021 and notified tribes, local governments and other agencies;
- posted the public notice on the Department’s public notice web page May 25, 2021 for a 30-day public review on the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet;
- opened online public comment availability on the Departments public comment website on May 25, 2021 for the 30-day public review period of the Daft Permit and Fact Sheet; and
- sent email notifications via the APDES Program List Serve when the Preliminary Draft, Draft, and Final Permits were available for review.

The Department requested comments on the Preliminary Draft documents from Hilcorp Alaska LLC (HAK), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Marine Fishery Services (NMFS), United States Fish and

Wildlife Service (FWS), and State agencies including, but not limited to, the Alaska Departments of Fish and Game and Natural Resources. Only HAK provided comments on the Preliminary Draft Permit and Fact Sheet during a shortened two-day applicant review. During the 30-day public review period, the Department did not receive comments on the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet.

1.3 Final Permit

The Final Permit was adopted by the Department on June 28, 2021. There were no changes to the Draft Permit and Fact Sheet after public notice to as the Department did not receive any comments from the permittee or the public.