

## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Point Thomson Export Pipeline

Division of Spill Prevention and Response Prevention Preparedness and Response Program

SITUATION REPORT (SITREP)

**CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS SITREP ARE DENOTED IN RED** 

## 2024 Point Thomson Export Pipeline Leak

**SITREP #: 2** 

SPILL #: 24399901301

**DATE/TIME OF DISTRIBUTION:** January 18, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Information current as of January 18, 2024, at 2:00 PM

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Harvest Alaska, LLC

**INCIDENT LOCATION:** The release was located on the North Slope, approximately 35 miles east of Prudhoe Bay and approximately 1 mile southeast of the Badami Pad. Lat/ long: 70.1347 N, 147.0694 W

**DATE/TIME OF SPILL:** On January 13, 2024, at 10:19 PM Alaska Standard Time (AKST), Harvest Alaska, LLC (Harvest Alaska) received a leak detection alarm, indicating a release from the pipeline.

**HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED:** After receiving the leak detection alarm and isolating the line, air and ground resources were deployed. Visual confirmation of the leak was observed via aircraft on January 14, 2024, at 11:54 A.M. The ground survey crew provided additional visual confirmation shortly thereafter.

**TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED:** The release is an unknown volume of liquid natural gas condensate (condensate). While the volume is still currently being determined, the maximum potential released from the pipeline was calculated by Harvest Alaska to be 11,550 gallons (275 barrels). Currently, the recovered contaminated snow is being staged in Deadhorse. Recovered contaminated snow will be melted, and then the natural gas condensate will be separated out and measured to refine the calculation of the amount of product leaked.

**CAUSE OF SPILL:** Investigation into the cause of the spill is on-going.

**SOURCE CONTROL:** The pipeline was immediately shut in and depressurized following the leak alarm notification, which has stopped any remaining condensate from leaving the pipeline. Crews plan to remove the pipeline insulation and evaluate the source of the leak to determine appropriate repair methods. In preparation for this investigating, cribbing and containment are being installed to prevent further contamination of the site. Subject Matter Experts, including representatives from Federal, State, and Local Agencies, have been engaged to support evaluation of the pipeline.

**RESPONSE ACTIONS:** Harvest Alaska has stood up an Incident Management Team (IMT) with a Unified Command (UC) that includes the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) and the North Slope Borough (NSB). Mutual aid is being provided by other North Slope operators.

Personnel from the USCG, ADEC, and NSB arrived on-site on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. Currently, there are 24 response personnel on scene and additional 95 personnel supporting the response in the IMT, including both Harvest Alaska, Alaska Clean Seas (ACS), and multiple state and federal agencies. There are no reports of injuries to personnel on the response.

Initial delineation of the spill area has been completed. Additional delineation for a more refined assessment is on-going. Trace amounts of product have been identified outside of the original delineation area and more concentrated area of product are being staked out for recovery. Response equipment for cleanup operations is on-site, including air monitoring equipment, and contaminated snow is being removed from the tundra with both heavy equipment and hand shovels, and the contaminated snow is being transported to Deadhorse for assessment and disposal.

RESOURCES AT RISK OR AFFECTED: There are no reports of oiled animals. Caribou and birds have been observed approximately ½ mile outside of the spill area. A cultural resources review has been conducted for the impacted area, and the State Historic Preservation Office and NSB have been consulted. The USCG requested initiation of Endangered Species Act emergency section 7 consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. There are multiple frozen tundra ponds in the vicinity, and there is a small frozen non-anadromous stream approximately 750 feet to the east of the pipeline leak location.

**FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Monitoring and cleanup efforts continue on-site, and plans for the remediation of residual product are currently being evaluated.

**WEATHER:** January 18, 2024: High 8° F, partly sunny, with an East-Southeast wind at 5 to 10-MPH (Miles per hour), increasing to 15 to 25-MPH. For overnight, light snow and winds out of the South at 15 to 25-MPH is expected.

Tomorrow, January 19th, winds of 9 to 17-MPH, with morning highs of 2° F.

## **UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:**

Incident Commander: Chris Ori, Harvest Alaska SOSC: Kimberley Maher, ADEC

FOSC: LT Travis Dopp, USCG LOSC: Leroy Oenga, NSB

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

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT**: Kimberley Maher, Northern Region State On-Scene Coordinator, (907)-451-2124, <a href="mailto:kimberley.maher@alaska.gov">kimberley.maher@alaska.gov</a>

[https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/spill-information/response/]



Figure 1. Incident Location

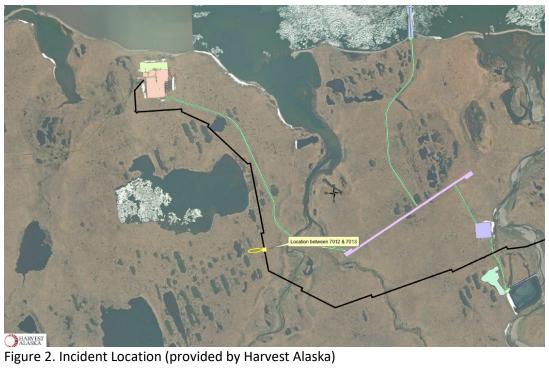




Figure 3. Stakes delineating are with light yellow natural gas condensate on snow on January 17, 2023. Photo provided by Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.



Figure 4. Working on getting scaffolding for pipeline jacket inspection. Fold-a-tank placed under pipeline in case of residual condensate on January 17, 2023. Photo provided by Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.



Figure 5. Loading contaminated snow into a bin for transport to Deadhorse on January 17, 2023. Photo provided by Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

**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
Senate T	Senator Donny Olson	Email	senator.donald.olson@akleg.gov	800-597-3707	907-465-4821
House 40	Representative Thomas Baker	Email	Representative.Thomas.Baker@akleg.gov	907-465-3473	
ADF&G	Division of Habitat	Email	dfg.hab.infofai@alaska.gov	907-459-7363	
ADNR	State Pipeline Coordinator's Section	Email	dnr.pco.records@alaska.gov		
ADNR	Statewide Abatement of Impaired Land Section	Email	dnr.nro.spill@alaska.gov		
USCG-Sector Anchorage	USCG-Anchorage	Email	sectoranchorage@uscg.mil	428-4100	428-4114 (24 hr)
US EPA	Bob Whittier, Torri Huelskoetter	Email	whittier.robert@epa.gov huelskoetter.torri@epa.gov	206-553-1263 or 206-553- 1264	271-3424
Dept of Law Attorney General Office	Jennifer Currie	Email	jennifer.currie@alaska.gov	269-5274	278-7022

Senator Murkowski's Washington DC Office	Chief of Staff	Fax		(202) 224- 6665	(202) 224-5301
Senator Murkowski's Fairbanks Office	Chief of Staff	Fax		456-0233	451-7146
North Slope Borough, Mayor	Josiah Patkotak	Fax	info@north-slope.org	852-0200	852-0337
North Slope Borough, Director, Planning Department	Chastity Olemaun	Email	Chastity.Olemaun@north-slope.org	852-0320	852-0322