

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Prevention and Emergency Response Program

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Pelican Seafoods, Inc
Anhydrous Ammonia

SITREP #: 3

SPILL NUMBER: 09119923202

LEDGER CODE: 14277560

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: 2:50 PM on August 25, 2009

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 3:30 PM on September 10, 2009

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

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: This is an informational sitrep on the current situation at the Pelican Seafoods facility in Pelican, AK. There has been no release reported to the Department, but the situation presents a potential anhydrous ammonia release.

LOCATION: Pelican Seafoods, Inc. - Pelican, AK.

CAUSE OF SPILL: Beginning on August 16, 2009, heavy rains in Pelican caused severe flooding of the area. At approximately 2:30 AM on August 20, 2009, a 30-foot section of the water flume supplying water to both the City of Pelican and the Pelican hydroelectric plant collapsed, damaging the main water supply line and leaving the town without a water supply. Water from the flume also provides cooling water to the Pelican Seafoods fish processing facility's refrigeration system. The hydroelectric plant was undergoing maintenance at the time of the incident and the town was already using the backup diesel generator.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Ed Bahrt, Ed Bahrt & Associates, LLC, and Kake Tribal Corporation.

RESPONSE ACTION: On September 8, the saddle needed to plumb the new pump that was received on August 30 into Pelican's temporary water system arrived and was immediately installed. The installation of the pump and saddle now allows maximum water flow and pressure to the community of Pelican and the fish processing plant, permitting normal operations to resume.

A 300-foot section of the city's original sixty-year old water distribution piping has had reoccurring breaks during the water shortage and the breaks are continuing to occur. The City of Pelican and a contractor working on the Pelican water and power construction project has been assisting the City with the repairs to the line. Pelican has ordered piping and parts to completely replace the original section of water distribution piping. This project will be undertaken as soon as the parts arrive in Pelican.

The Pelican Utility District (PUD), owned by Kake Tribal Corporation, notified ADEC that its cost of generating power has increased substantially as the PUD is running on diesel power. The hydroelectric plant normally used to generate electricity has been removed as part of an Alaska Energy Authority construction project in Pelican. The PUD can no longer afford to continue providing power to the seafood plant. Loss of electric power could result in an uncontrolled release of anhydrous ammonia and impact the safety and welfare of the residents of Pelican.

ADEC has issued letters to both potential responsible parties requesting the submittal of plans outlining how they intend to mitigate or control a release of anhydrous ammonia should one occur due to failure of the temporary water line from the reservoir, or a disruption in the electric service to the seafood plant.

SOURCE CONTROL: There is no reportable discharge at this time.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: There has been no major release of anhydrous ammonia at this time and no resources have been affected.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Both potential responsible parties are to submit to ADEC a plan of action on how they will mitigate or control a release of anhydrous ammonia should one occur.

The City of Pelican and a contractor will continue to perform necessary repairs to the Pelican water distribution piping and will replace the original sections when parts arrive.

The construction project to upgrade the electric and water systems will continue until completed next year.

WEATHER: Rain, heavy at times. Southeast winds 35 mph with gust up to 50mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Patricia Phillips, Mayor of Pelican
 F.O.S.C.: Capt. Melissa Bert, USCG
 S.O.S.C.: Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC
 Field S.O.S.C.: None

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC, 907-465-5378

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed via email to the Governor's office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, USEPA, USDOL, NMFS, USFWS, and USFS in addition to the following.

Agency	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
Senate Dist. A	Senator Bert Stedman	E-mail	senator_bert_stedman@legis.state.ak.us	465-3873	465-3922
Senate Dist. C	Senator Al Kookesh	Fax	session	465-3473	465-2827
House Dist. 2	Representative Peggy Wilson	Fax	session	465-3824	465-3175
House Dist. 5	Representative Bill Thomas	Fax	session	465-3732	465-2652
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Lt. Latarsha McQueen	Email	Latarsha.s.mcqueen@uscg.mil	463-2835	463-2445
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Matt Jones		Matt.n.jones@uscg.mil	463-2452	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Kurt Clarke		Kurt.a.clarke@uscg.mil	463-2475	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Capt. Melissa Bert	Email	Melissa.bert@uscg.mil	463-2836	
USDA Forest Service - Tongass Env. Engineer	Michele Marie Parker	Email	mmparker@fs.fed.us	772-5850	772-5896
USDA Forest Service - Hoonah Ranger District	District Ranger Rich Jennings	Email	rdjennings@fs.fed.us	945-1201	945-3385
NMFS	Jon Kurland	Email	Jon.kurland@noaa.gov	586-7638	586-7358
ADF&G	Jackie Timothy	Email	jackie.timothy@alaska.gov	465-4275	
Organized Village of Kake	President Henrich Kadake	Fax	keexkwaan@kakefirstnation.org	785-6471	785-4902
City of Kake	Mayor Henrich Kadake	E-mail	city.of.kake@gmail.com	785-3804	785-4815
City of Pelican	Mayor Patricia Phillips	Fax	cityhall@pelicancity.net	735-2202	735-2258
SEAPRO	Dave Owings	Email	dave@seapro.org	225-7002	247-1117
Kake Tribal Corporation	Paula Burgner			735-2296	

DEC - Village Safe Water	Philip Gagnon	Email	Philip.gagnon@alaska.gov	269-2681	
DMVA	Claude Denver	Email	Claude.denver@alaska.gov	428-7090	
DEC - Water Quality	Bill Griffith	Email	bill.griffith@alaska.gov	229-4695	
DEC - Water Quality	Greg Magee	Email	Greg.magee@alaska.gov	269-7613	