

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Pump Station 1 Booster Pump Piping Incident **SITREP #:** 6

SPILL NUMBER: 11399900801 **LEDGER CODE:** 14307760

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: Alyeska Pipeline Service Company (APSC) employees discovered a spill of crude oil inside the booster pump building at Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) Pump Station 1 at 8:16 AM on January 8, 2011. APSC reported the spill to ADEC at 8:39 AM on January 8, 2011. APSC cut the flow of oil to the TAPS line at approximately 8:50 AM, January 8, 2011.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 4:00 PM, January 13, 2011

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 4:00 PM, January 14, 2011

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: Crude oil appears to have been released from part of the booster pumps' discharge piping located either in the wall of the booster pump building or in a concrete-encapsulated underground section outside the building. Oil seeped into the building where a pipe passed through the basement wall. No oil has been observed outside the booster pump building. APSC crews recovered approximately 2,185 gallons (52 barrels) of oil from the spill and re-injected it into the TAPS line.

LOCATION: TAPS Pump Station 1, Prudhoe Bay. Pump Station 1 is the point at which all oil from the North Slope oil fields enters the TAPS line.

CAUSE OF SPILL: Investigation is ongoing to determine the cause of the release and the precise location of its source.

RESPONSIBLE PARTY (RP): Alyeska Pipeline Service Company (APSC)

RESPONSE ACTION: Following the initial spill cleanup, a containment tank was installed at the seep site. With the temporary TAPS restart shortly after 9:00 PM on January 11, 2011 (see Sitrep #4), oil began flowing again through the suspect booster pump discharge piping. Flow from the seep has appeared to remain steady since the restart, and as of noon today, APSC crews had recovered approximately 5,670 gallons (135 barrels) of oil from the tank for re-injection into the TAPS line.

At noon today, the rate of oil flow through the TAPS line was approximately 14,280,000 gallons (340,000 barrels) per day. The North Slope producers were providing oil at a rate of approximately 13,104,000 gallons (312,000 barrels) per day. These rates vary with oil field and pipeline operating requirements.

APSC is in the process of refining and finalizing its procedures for shutting down the TAPS and installing the bypass pipe between booster pump 1 and the TAPS input piping in the metering building. The Unified Command has decided that operation of the TAPS may continue until these preparations are complete. Shutdown is targeted for tomorrow evening, but may be delayed if necessary for the procedures to be thoroughly vetted by APSC and regulators. APSC estimates the shutdown will last 36 to 48 hours.

Recovery of oil from the leak containment tank in the basement of the booster pump building is ongoing. Personnel monitoring soil outside the building have reported no evidence of oil. Digging began this morning on two additional subsurface soil monitoring holes outside the building.

An airborne crew again overflew the entire pipeline last night with forward-looking infrared (FLIR) imaging equipment to look for thermal evidence of oil leaks. No potential leak sites were identified.

As of 2:00 PM today, the northern pig had passed milepost 479 on its way to being captured at Pump Station 8, which is at milepost 489.2. It was expected to arrive at the pump station this evening. Because Pump Station 8 does not have a pig receiver (a purpose-built section of oversized pipe for isolating a pig and removing it from the line) the pig will be trapped in the main TAPS pipeline and oil diverted through an existing bypass pipe that APSC personnel prepared for this operation over the past few days. ADEC personnel will be at Pump Station 8 to observe the pig capture procedures. The southern pig is expected to arrive at the Valdez Marine Terminal this evening. It will be removed from the pipeline through the terminal's pig receiver.

More materials for construction of the bypass pipe were flown last night to Pump Station 1. All the necessary materials are expected to be on-site by tomorrow morning and ready for some pre-assembly. Workers at the pump station have removed snow and placed scaffolding along the bypass pipe route, and continue to stage equipment and make other preparations for installing the pipe. APSC plans to start fabricating parts by early next week for an extension of the bypass pipe to booster pump 2. The extension will connect to a valve on the first section of bypass pipe, so no shut down will be required for its installation.

Staging of cold restart equipment is complete at Pump Station 5 and continues at other pump stations. ADEC personnel again today visited pump stations and valve sites to observe cold restart preparations.

ADEC personnel remain at Pump Station 1 to observe oil recovery, pollution monitoring, shutdown, and bypass installation.

More than 550 people across the state are involved in the response to this incident, which remains free of personnel injuries.

SOURCE CONTROL: The TAPS line was shut down shortly after the spill was discovered. Workers continue preparations to isolate and drain the compromised discharge piping once the TAPS line is shut down for the bypass tie-in. Containment and recovery equipment in place exceed the capacity necessary to manage the seep of oil into the booster pump building.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: Pump Station 1 is surrounded by tundra, marshland and ponds, but due to the location of the booster pump building on the interior of the station's gravel pad, there appears to be no immediate threat to sensitive habitat or wildlife. No oil has been observed outside the booster pump building.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: APSC will continue to prepare for the planned TAPS shutdown and for the contingency of a cold restart thereafter. Personnel will continue to recover oil from the booster pump building and monitor the surrounding soil for oil contamination. Monitoring of soil gas probes around the booster pump building will be included in spill detection efforts once the level of activity around the building permits. Daytime visual and nighttime FLIR aerial monitoring for potential spills will continue.

WEATHER: Dry, cold weather is expected for the northern part of the state through at least early next week. The contrast between high pressure in the north and low pressure over the Gulf of Alaska is generating gusty north winds in parts of southcentral Alaska. Forecasts for several locations on the TAPS line for today through tomorrow (temperatures in ° F):

Prudhoe Bay – high today 10 to 15 below, low tonight 15 below, high tomorrow 0 to 10 below; south wind to 10 mph, turning southeast tomorrow; scattered flurries tonight and tomorrow.

Fairbanks – high today 10 below, low tonight 10 below to 25 below, high tomorrow 15 below; temperatures on hilltops may be up to 20 degrees warmer; light wind at lower elevations, northeast wind to 30 mph on hilltops.

Glennallen – high today 10 below to 5 above, low tonight 30 below, high tomorrow 20 below; along the Alaska Range, north to east wind 10 to 30 mph with gusts to 35 mph.

Valdez – high in the 20s today, temperatures 10 to 15 tonight and tomorrow, temperatures 10 to 15 degrees colder through Thompson Pass; high wind warning in effect through tomorrow night, north to east wind 15 to 35 mph with gusts to 65 mph.

Prudhoe Bay is located above the Arctic Circle. The next sunrise will occur at 12:42 PM on January 19, 2011; sunset will occur 44 minutes later.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: John Baldrige, APSC
 F.O.S.C.: Matt Carr, EPA
 S.O.S.C.: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC
 Field S.O.S.C.: Paul Lhotka, ADEC

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Unified Command Joint Information Center 907-450-5857

Photographs and other incident information are available for viewing at:
www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/ps1

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders. The situation report was also distributed to the various agency staff listed on the standard distribution list. The receiving agencies listed in the standard distribution list includes: Governor's office, Senator Begich's office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, EPA, DOI, NMFS, and USFWS.

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFO	TELEPHONE	FAX
ADNR	Melissa Head Justin Selvik Mike Thompson Alison Iversen	Fax email email email		451-2732	451-2751
ADF&G (Habitat)	Al Ott/Jack Winters Lee McKinley	Fax email		459-7285 or 459-7279	459-7303
AOGCC	Jody Colombie	email			
EPA	Matt Carr/Robert Whittier	Fax		271-5083 or 271-3247	271-6340
DOT/PHMSA	Tom Johnson Dennis Hinnah	email			
Attorney General Office	Cam Leonard/ Steve Mulder	Fax		451-2811/451-2914	451-2985/ 278-7022
Governor's Office (Fairbanks)	Parnell/Treadwell	Fax		451-2920	451-2858
Lt. Governor's Office (Juneau)	Mead Treadwell	Fax		465-3520	465-5400
Senator Murkowski's Washington DC Office	Chief of Staff	Fax	North Slope only	(202) 224-6665	(202) 224-5301
Senator Murkowski's Office in Fairbanks		Fax	North Slope only	456-0233	451-7146
Legislator (Senate T)	Donnie Olson (D)	Fax	Nome	465-3707	465-4821
Legislator (House 40)	Reggie Joule (D)	Fax	Kotzebue	465-4833 or (800) 782-4833	465-4586
Legislator (Senate F)	John Coghill	Fax	Valdez	488-1546 or 465-3719	488-4271 or 465-3258
Legislator (House 12)	Eric Feige	Fax	Valdez	269-0129 or 465- 4859	269-0128 or 465-3799
Other Agencies:					
North Slope Borough	Edward Sagan Itta	Fax	Mayor	852-0200	852-0337
North Slope Borough	Dan Forster	Fax	Planning Director	852-0440	852-5991

