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Jan. 16, 2011, 12:00 p.m.

- The Unified Command’s primary goal is to safely return the pipeline to full service while protecting people and the environment. The Unified Command is comprised of federal, state and Alyeska representatives.
- There is no known harm to the environment or wildlife due to this incident.

Current status:
- The Trans Alaska Pipeline System is in a planned shutdown since shortly after 12:00 a.m. on Jan. 15 to install the bypass pipeline at Pump Station 1. The target time to complete installation and resume normal operation is late tonight or early tomorrow. This time is tentative and may change.
- A complex project of this scale would normally take months of planning and preparation. Crews are making excellent progress in a short timeframe and under challenging weather conditions.
- Oil storage tanks at Prudhoe Bay are holding incoming oil during the shutdown. Each tank can hold approximately 200,000 barrels, for a total of 400,000 barrels.
- Since the main pipeline shut down for installation of the bypass, the original leak in the pump station basement was stopped.
- Work continues around the clock to complete the bypass pipeline. The goal is to have a safe, smooth transition so that normal oil flow can resume.
- The total recovery estimate from Pump Station 1 from when the leak was detected on Jan. 8 is about 317 barrels of oil, or 13,326 gallons.
- To date, there is no known impact to the environment.
- The North Slope oil fields are operating at approximately 16 percent of normal production levels during the shutdown period.
- The safety of responders, the public and the environment remains the top priority of the Unified Command.
- Cleaning devices in the pipeline, called pigs, arrived at their destinations at Pump Station 8 and the Valdez terminal on Jan. 14.
- To date, no oil has been discovered outside the building.
- At the present time, there are 605 people responding to the incident, including 374 people at Pump Station 1.

For current weather conditions at Pump Station 1:  

For background on the incident, including restart of the pipeline:  
www.dec.alaska.gov/spar/ps1

Note: All times are Alaska Standard Time.

The Unified Command consists of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and Alyeska Pipeline Service Company.

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