



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



CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS SITREPS ARE DENOTED IN RED

Kotzebue 483 8th Ave., HHO Spill

SITREP # 2

SPILL #: 14389904101

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 3:30 p.m. February 14, 2014

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation (KIC), property owner

INCIDENT LOCATION: 483 8th Avenue, Kotzebue

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: KIC employees discovered the spill at 9:45 a.m. on February 10, 2014. KIC reported the spill to ADEC at 1:45 p.m. on February 10, 2014.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The spilled product is home heating oil (#1 diesel). KIC reported that the 947-gallon-capacity above-ground storage tank was last filled on January 20, 2014, with approximately 118 gallons remaining when the spill was discovered on February 10, 2014. After researching fuel delivery records, the estimated spill volume is 350-400 gallons.

CAUSE OF SPILL: Above-freezing temperatures in mid-January caused snow and ice to fall off an adjacent garage roof, completely separating the fuel supply line from an oil-fired furnace located in the garage. Force from the snow and ice landing on the ½ inch black iron fuel pipe attached to the residence caused a threaded connection to completely fail from its fitting.

SOURCE CONTROL: The damaged section of the fuel line has been removed from service.

RESPONSE ACTION: KIC employees worked on February 10 to achieve source control, recover pooled oil in the vicinity of the source, and start delineating the area affected by the spill. Supplies to be used during the response are en route to Kotzebue. KIC owns heavy equipment that its responders will use to recover the contaminated snow and gravel. On February 11-13 responders continued with the removal of free product, started an interception trench along the shoreline of the lagoon to hinder the spilled product from entering the saltwater lagoon, and continued the delineation effort. A tideland spill response permit was provided by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources. ADEC responders potholed through the snow to determine if fuel moved down-gradient beneath shore-fast ice. Response personnel collected ice and sediment samples to evaluate with a photoionization detector (PID) and discovered some hydrocarbon movement beyond the response area.

ADEC responders extended their search pattern into the lagoon with snow pits and ice auger holes to saltwater. Multiple holes down-gradient from the flow path were bored through about four feet of sea ice to determine if heating oil reached the saltwater environment. Additional holes were bored left and right of the flow path to

establish a cross-shaped search pattern. No oil was discovered. Cuttings were returned to the water-filled bore holes.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: KIC reported on February 10 that a large area of snow and gravel had been contaminated. It is currently unclear how much spilled product could have impacted ice on top of the lagoon during the event, but after initial delineation efforts it is believed to be a very small amount. An ice auger was used on February 13 to investigate the potential for pooled product underneath the ice of the lagoon, but no evidence of product was found. No affected wildlife have been observed since the spill was discovered.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Complete delineation of the spill area; develop waste management plans; continue removal of contaminated snow, ice and gravel; complete the interception trench to prevent further impact to the Kotzebue Lagoon; develop plans for flood and recover tactics to be conducted during the next couple of months; develop written work and sampling plans. ADEC and U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) responders who had been on site for monitoring of spill response activities and delineation of spill area departed Kotzebue today.

WEATHER: Today: A mix of clouds and sun. Highs around -14F. Winds ENE at 10 to 15 mph. Tomorrow: Except for a few afternoon clouds, mainly sunny. Highs around -8F. Winds NE at 15 to 25 mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Nicole Stoops, KIC
SOSC: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC
FOSC: Captain Paul Mahler, USCG
FOSCR: Robert Davis, USCG
Field SOSC: John Ebel, ADEC

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT DISTRIBUTION: As conditions warrant.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: John Ebel, ADEC, (907) 451-2102

http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/perp/response/sr_active.htm



ADEC responder collecting screening samples during delineation efforts (John Ebel/ADEC photo)

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST:

Please refer to the first sitrep distributed February 11, 2014 for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The link to the first sitrep can be found in the **Additional Information** box above.