CIPL Drift River Crude Oil Spill

SITREP #: 2

SPILL #: 16239918401

TIME/DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 3:30 p.m. August 9, 2016

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Cook Inlet Pipeline Company (CIPL)

INCIDENT LOCATION: Drift River Terminal Facility (DRT facility), west side of Cook Inlet (Lat/Long: 60.602627/-152.174166)

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: There were two spills discovered associated with over pressurization of the 20-inch fill line. The first spill was discovered on July 2, 2016. The second spill was discovered on July 28, 2016.

HOW/WHEN SPILL WAS DISCOVERED AND REPORTED: The spill reported on July 2 was discovered while a CIPL operator at DRT facility was conducting a facility inspection. The spill discovered at 5 p.m. on July 28 was found while CIPL staff was conducting an inspection of the areas above the buried 20-inch fill line. This spill was reported to ADEC on July 29 at 8:45 a.m.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: On July 2, CIPL reported 14 gallons of crude oil inside a valve box and one gallon to the ground. On July 29, CIPL reported a crude oil stain at the surface of one of the buried 20-inch fill line blind flanges in the pipe corridor between Tanks 1 and 4. The quantity of this spill is unknown. The stain area was reported by CIPL to be 24 feet by 24 feet by 30 feet (triangular surface measurement).

CAUSE OF SPILL: Over pressurization of the 20-inch fill line while emptying two tanks in preparation for internal inspection.

On June 25, 2016, CIPL conducted an operation to pump down two tanks at the DRT facility and transfer their contents to one of the 270,000-barrel crude oil storage tanks approved for use. The procedure used by the DRT facility indicated the transfer was being made to Tank 4. However, the two tank contents were being transferred into Tank 3. The operation was being initiated at the same time that crude oil from the CIPL Crude Oil Transmission Pipeline (COTP) was being received into Tank 3 through the 20-inch fill line. When transfer from the CIPL COTP was terminated for the day, the controller at the Kenai Gas Field closed the fill valve to Tank 3. At that time the pump used to draw down the two tanks was still operating. Closing the fill valve to Tank 3 closed off the flow path of the oil from the two tanks into Tank 3. Due to the operations being conducted simultaneously, the closure of the valve to Tank 3, and the continued throughput from the two tanks, the 20-inch fill line was over-pressurized.

SOURCE CONTROL: The 20-inch fill line has been isolated and shut down.
RESPONSE ACTION: CIPL submitted a Drift River Spill Recovery Plan on August 4 for ADEC’s review and approval. The plan was approved on August 5. CIPL hired an environmental contractor to address the contamination that was discovered on July 28. The plan that was approved on August 5 included the following:

- Excavate the contaminated soil from the area where the stain was discovered on July 28
- Excavate the soil around the buried flanges associated with the 20-inch fill line to visually inspect the flange condition and to determine if any leaks were evident at these locations by collecting soil and water samples for lab analysis
- Remove remaining crude oil in the isolated 20-inch fill line

On August 5, CIPL had a contracted engineer on site to determine the depth of buried flanges in preparation for plan implementation. The flange depths varied from approximately 3 feet to 9 feet.

CIPL and their environmental contractor have collected soil and water samples from limited excavation areas to detect presence of crude oil. CIPL personnel on site are building pads with rig mats (portable platform used to support equipment used in construction) near areas where heavy equipment will be used for excavation.

Due to recent overcast and rainy weather, flight access to Drift River has been limited, slowing down the planned activities.

The crude oil in the 20-inch line will be removed from the line when a tanker comes in on August 14.

Two ADEC staff (one response staff and one engineer) are scheduled to be site on Wednesday, August 10 to review activities conducted to date and to provide oversight.

RESOURCES AT RISK: No impacts to wildlife have been reported. Rust Slough/Drift River are adjacent to the facility and flow into Redoubt Bay of Cook Inlet. Terrestrial mammals (bears, moose) and nesting waterfowl may be present in the area.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: CIPL will be obtain dewatering permit through ADEC Division of Water, Waste Water Program’s to address water intrusion from excavation activity.

ADEC staff will conduct regular site visits to Drift River, currently set for twice a week, to monitor activities.


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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Young Ha, ADEC, (907) 269-7544
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http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/response/sum_fy16/160702201/160702201_index.htm
Figure 1: Location Map. The numbers near the tanks indicate their respective tank numbers. (Source/Google Map)

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST: Please refer to the first sitrep distributed August 2 for the agency/stakeholder notification list. The link to the first sitrep can be found in the Additional Information box above. Additions to the distribution list are noted below:

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