U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Alyeska Pump Sta 1 Spill - Removal Polrep

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region X

Subject: **POLREP #1**
Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. Pump Station 1 Booster Pump
Alyeska Pump Sta 1 Spill

Deadhorse, AK
Latitude: 64.8988518 Longitude: -147.6097226

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From: Matt Carr, On-Scene Coordinator
Date: 1/10/2011
Reporting Period: 01/08/2011 to 01/09/2011

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:		**Contract Number:**	
D.O. Number:		**Action Memo Date:**	
Response Authority:	CWA	**Response Type:**	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	PRP	**Incident Category:**	Removal Assessment
NPL Status:		**Operable Unit:**	
Mobilization Date:	1/8/2011	**Start Date:**	1/8/2011
Demob Date:		**Completion Date:**	
CERCLIS ID:		**RCRIS ID:**	
ERNS No.:		**State Notification:**	
FPN#:	E11002	**Reimbursable Account #:**	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Not applicable because the POLREP addresses the threat of discharge of oil.

1.1.2 Site Description

1.1.2.1 Location

The Alyeska Pipeline Service Company (Alyeska) Pump Station 1 (PS01) is located approximately 4.5 miles south of Prudhoe Bay and is north of Deadhorse, North Slope Borough, Alaska, the northern terminus of the James Dalton Highway (70º15’26.24” latitude, 148º37’08.70” longitude). PS01 receives and meters oil from the producers, and PS01 is also a pig launching/receiving facility.

There are no developed or designated public recreation facilities located in the vicinity of PS01. Dispersed recreation by travelers on the Dalton Highway includes bird and wildlife watching and nature photography.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

On 8 January 2011, personnel at PS01 discovered crude oil leaking into the station’s booster pump building from a section of piping at the station that is encased in concrete adjacent to the building. Approximately 10 barrels of oil have been recovered from the basement. It is unknown whether any crude oil was discharged from the basement to the surrounding environment.

There is a substantial threat of discharge of oil from PS01 in harmful quantities into navigable waters of the United States or adjoining shorelines. PS01 is located in coastal arctic tundra. The Putuligayuk River, which flows into Prudhoe Bay, is adjacent to PS01.

The Putuligayuk River is classified as an anadromous fish stream at its lower end (about 2 miles from PS01). Caribou may be found in the area throughout the year and waterfowl nesting may occur on any pond or lake. The spectacled eider, a bird listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act, is found in the marine and estuarine areas along the coast. Musk ox may occasionally been seen in the area.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

On 8 January 2011, personnel at PS01 discovered oil leaking into the station's booster pump building from a section of 42-inch piping which is encased in concrete and located underground, adjacent to the building. The Alyeska Operations Control Center (OCC) shut down the Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) at approximately 0850 hrs on January 8. The Alyeska Fairbanks Incident Management Team and Fairbanks Emergency Operations Center (FEOC) were activated. The booster pumps were isolated and at approximately 1600 hrs work crews began recovering oil from the booster pump room basement. It is unknown whether any crude oil was discharged from the basement to the surrounding environment. The OCC curtailed North Slope crude oil production to 5 percent of normal production. At this reduced rate, Alyeska estimates that there is approximately 8 days of tankage available at PS01.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.1.1 Current Situation

During January 8th and 9th, two 320 barrel vacuum trucks recovered approximately 9 to 10 barrels (bbls) of crude oil from the booster pump building basement, and work crews are continuing to recover oil from the basement. A contamination assessment plan (CAP) is undergoing review by Unified Command (UC). PS01 is constructed on a pad of sandy gravel fill material and the purpose of the CAP is to delineate any crude oil contamination present in the gravel pad.

Extensive efforts are underway to repair and re-route piping and to re-start the pipeline. Plans are being finalized to isolate the buried piping and install 160 feet of 24-inch bypass piping and to disconnect, drain, and seal off the pipe being bypassed. Additionally, Alyeska is considering implementation of a Cold Restart Plan which was developed to mitigate any potential issues with restarting the pipeline due to cold temperatures and the shutdown duration.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

Refer to Subsection 2.1.1.1.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties

(PRPs)

The EPA has initially determined that Alyeska is the owner, operator, or person in charge of the facility which is the source of the above referenced potential threat of discharge of oil in harmful quantities into a navigable water of the United States, or adjoining shoreline, as defined in Section 311 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1321, as amended by the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) of 1990, 33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	*Medium*	*Quantity*	*Manifest #*	*Treatment*	*Disposal*
Crude Oil	Liquid	420 gals		None	Recycled

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Refer to Subsection 2.1.1.1.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Refer to Subsection 2.1.1.1 and Subsection 2.5.

2.2.2 Issues

None.

2.3 Logistics Section

2.3 Logistics

The responsible party has adequate resources including equipment, materials, and personnel. Other resources are deployed as appropriate or necessary.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

A Federal Project Number (FPN) has been assigned by the National Pollution Funds Center with an initial funding ceiling of $50,000. Of this amount, $25,000 was allocated to EPA and $25,000 was allocated to START. The initial funding ceiling will require an increase of approximately $200,000 to accommodate the anticipated needs of the response.

2.5 Safety Officer

On 8 January 2010, the Site health and safety plan was finalized and signed by all personnel involved with field work at PS01. Daily safety briefings are conducted. A Traffic Control Plan is being prepared to guide traffic working at PS01 while recovering crude oil and repairing and re-routing piping.

2.6 Liaison Officer

An Alyeska Liaison Officer has been designated and is available to assist the Alyeska Incident Commander with ensuring that government agencies are kept informed of the incident should the need arise.

2.7 Information Officer

2.7.1 Public Information Officer

A Joint Information Center (JIC) consisting of USEPA, ADEC, and Alyeska was established to provide timely, useful, and accurate information to the public and other stakeholders. To date, the JIC has prepared three fact sheets and 3 news releases.

2.7.2 Community Involvement Coordinator

None.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Unified Command has been established and consists of US EPA, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company.

3.2 Cooperating and Assisting Agencies

The Bureau of Land Management is providing the Deputy Federal On Scene Coordinator for this response. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administrative is providing technical specialists in support of this incident.

4. Personnel On Site

EPA Personnel	START (E&E) Personnel
2 – OSCs (Fairbanks) 1 – PIO (Fairbanks) 2 – OSCs (Prudhoe Bay)	2 – Anchorage 2 – Fairbanks 2 – Prudhoe Bay

5. Definition of Terms

A “barrel” (bbl) of crude oil is defined as 42 US gallons.

“Pig,” as used in Section 1.1.2.1, is defined as a scraping tool that is forced through a pipeline or flow line to clean out accumulations of wax, scale, and debris from the walls of the pipe it travels with the flow of product in the line, cleaning the pipe walls by means of blades or brushes affixed to it.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/reports

For additional information, please refer to “Documents” on www.epaosc.org/AlyeskaPumpSta1

6.2 Reporting Schedule

The next POLREP will be submitted on January 11, 2011.

7. Situational Reference Materials