

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Lisburne Common Line Release

SITREP #: 6

SPILL NUMBER: 09399933301

LEDGER CODE: 14281660

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: The spill was discovered at approximately 3:05 AM, November 29, 2009 by the BPXA operator making a routine check. BPXA notified ADEC at approximately 4:45 AM on November 29, 2009.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 2:00 PM on December 4, 2009

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: 2:00 PM on December 5, 2009

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The spill was from an 18-inch three-phase common line carrying a mixture of crude oil, produced water, and natural gas. The amount spilled is currently unknown. The spilled volume will be calculated when the heavily contaminated area can be safely accessed. Currently, the heavily contaminated area underneath and around the 18-inch line cannot be safely accessed due to unstable pressure in the line caused by ice plugs.

LOCATION: Approximately 1.5 miles from the Lisburne Production Center (LPC) heading east along the Drill Site Line 3 (L03) and west of T3C, Prudhoe Bay, North Slope, Alaska.

CAUSE OF SPILL: The cause of the spill is unknown and is under investigation.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): BP Exploration Alaska, Inc. (BPXA)

RESPONSE ACTION: BPXA is working on assessing the level of pressurization remaining in the pipeline, since pressure differentials could lead to an unexpected release, presenting a threat to workers near the pipe. In accordance with the plan approved by the Unified Command (UC) on December 3, BPXA used x-ray technology to view priority locations on the line in an effort to determine the areas of oil, ice and pressurized natural gas. The x-ray film is being analyzed by technical staff. Barring the need for additional images of the line, this may provide the UC with the information necessary to resolve the safety concerns. Until the safety concerns are addressed, access to the heavily contaminated area closest to the 18-inch line continues to be restricted. To protect workers, a 40 foot diameter exclusion zone was erected around the spill site. This safety perimeter has delayed cleanup efforts under and along the pipeline, as well as restricted work necessary to determine an initial spill volume estimate.

As of 6:30 AM on December 4, approximately 40 cubic yards of contaminated material was manually removed from the south side. BPXA also discovered standing liquid product under the snow during cleanup operations. There is no indication from the Forward Looking Infrared Radar (FLIR) overflights that the size of the affected area has increased. BPXA is developing new cleanup tactics for collecting standing liquid product for UC approval.

The staging area was completed at 7:00 PM on December 3, 2009. The total completed area is 204 feet by 210 feet, composed of 201 rig mats. Two ramps were completed to allow access to the staging area from the gravel road. The staging area was designed to support work involving an access trench excavation under the pipeline and to stage equipment for mechanical removal of product from the highly contaminated area; these tactics are being reviewed by BPXA following the discovery of the liquid product.

The construction of the East Dock ice pit was completed. Contaminated material from Phase 2 South Division cleanup operations is being stored in the manmade ice pit prior to volume estimation and recycling or disposal.

SOURCE CONTROL: The common line between the LPC and L03 was shut in. BPXA reports that the 18-inch line is no longer leaking product.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: BPXA estimates that 8,400 square-feet of snow-covered tundra have been affected with some contamination on the gravel road. Reports indicate that no product has reached the waters or shorelines of Prudhoe Bay. There are no reports of affected wildlife at this time.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Spill volume calculation protocols are being developed. BPXA has proposed using a combination of methods to determine an accurate calculation of total volume spilled. Contaminated snow will be collected and melted to allow oil product to be separated and measured. Spill volume estimates based on this method will not be available until all cleanup operations are completed. Plans also include using Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) which is a laser light system used to collect topographic data. LIDAR data from the summer of 2006 will be compared to current LIDAR data to calculate the total volume of contaminated material.

Phase 2 of the cleanup plan includes removing portions of the gravel road to allow access to the south side of the pipeline for Phase 2 and 3 cleanup. Access road work is being reassessed by BPXA following the discovery of the liquid product.

Phase 3 of the cleanup plan includes additional cleanup operations for the area of heaviest contamination within the South Division, as necessary. Tactics for this cleanup will be finalized following Phase 2 operations.

WEATHER: Mostly cloudy with patchy fog and flurries. High temperature -10°F. Southwest winds 10 to 20mph. Tonight mostly cloudy, lows between -20°F and -10°F. Southwest winds around 10mph becoming east after midnight.

UNIFID COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander:	Randy Selman, BPXA
F.O.S.C.:	Matt Carr, EPA
S.O.S.C.:	Tom DeRuyter, ADEC
Field S.O.S.C.:	Brian Jackson, ADEC
L.O.S.C.:	Waska Willams, North Slope Borough

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Dale Gardner, ADEC, (907) 269-7682 or Scot Tiernan, ADEC, (907) 465-5378.

Photographs and other spill information are available for viewing at:

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/lisburne>

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed to the following agencies and stakeholders. This 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 USFW.

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFO	TELEPHONE	FAX
ADNR	Leon Lynch/ Gary Schultz/ Larry Byrne	Fax		451-2724/ 451-2732	451-2751 or 659-2965
ADF&G (Habitat)	Al Ott/Jack Winters	Fax		459-7285 or 459-7279	459-7303
AOGCC		Fax			276-7542
EPA	Matt Carr/Robert Whittier	Fax		271-5083 or 271-3247	271-6340
Attorney General Office	Cam Leonard/ Steve Mulder	Fax		451-2811/451-2914	451-2985/ 278-7022
Governor's Office (Fairbanks)	Parnell/Campbell	Email	governor@alaska.gov	451-2920	451-2858

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFO	TELEPHONE	FAX
Lt. Governor's Office (Juneau)	Parnell/Campbell	Fax			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
North Slope Borough	Edward Sagaan Itta	Fax	Mayor	852-0200	852-0337
North Slope Borough	Johnny Aiken	Fax	Planning Director	852-0440	852-5991
BP Exploration Inc	Crisis Center	Fax	When activated	564-5243	564-5180
BP Exploration Inc	Crisis Mgmt Unit	Fax	Dept Admin	564-5801	564-5180

Acronyms/Abbreviations:

ADF&G = Alaska Department of Fish and Game
ADNR = Alaska Department of Natural Resources
SECC = State Emergency Coordination Center
EPA = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

DOI = U.S. Department of Interior
NMFS = National Marine Fisheries Service
USFW = U.S. Fish and Wildlife



Photograph by ADEC.

Completed staging area near the spill site.



Photograph by ADEC.



Photograph by ADEC.

Crews collected approximately 40 cubic yards of contaminated snow from the heavily contaminated area in the South Division.

Liquid product found during cleanup operations.