THE STATE of ALASKA
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
Contaminated Sites Program

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Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: (907) 269-7558
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DEC File No: 900.38.001

February 7, 2025

CEPOA-PME-FB
Attn: Beth Astley
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, AK 99506-6898

Re: Decision Document: Haines-Fairbanks Pipeline MP 544- Timber Pump Station
Cleanup Complete Determination

Dear Ms. Astley,

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Contaminated Sites Program (DEC) has completed a review of the environmental records associated with the Haines-Fairbanks Pipeline MP 544-Timber Pump Station located near Delta Junction, Alaska. Based on the information provided to date, it has been determined that the contaminant concentrations remaining on site do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment and no further remedial action will be required unless information becomes available that indicates residual contaminants may pose an unacceptable risk.

This Cleanup Complete determination is based on the administrative record for the Haines-Fairbanks Pipeline MP 544- Timber Pump Station maintained by DEC. This decision letter summarizes the site history, cleanup actions and levels, and site closure conditions that apply.

Site Name and Location:
Haines-Fairbanks Pipeline MP 544-
Timber Pump Station
FUDS Property # F10AK1016-11
Milepost 276 Richardson Highway
Delta Junction, AK 99737

Name and Mailing Address of Contact Party:
CEPOA-PME-FB
Attn: Beth Astley
P.O. Box 6898
JBER, AK 99506-6898

DEC Site Identifiers:
File No.: 900.38.001
Hazard ID.: 4481

Regulatory Authority for Determination:
18 Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) 75

Site Description and Background
The Timber Pump station along the Haines-Fairbanks pipeline (HFP) operated from 1961 to 1973. The HFP extended 626 miles and carried petroleum from the offloading terminal in Haines to Fort Greely, Fort Wainwright, and Eielson Air Force Base. A site investigation in 1994 identified potential contamination near former above ground storage tanks (ASTs), the pipeline vaults, manifold building, and at a burn pit.

Contaminants of Concern
During the site investigation and cleanup activities at this site, samples were collected from soil and groundwater and analyzed for polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), gasoline range organics (GRO), diesel range organics (DRO), and residual range organics (RRO), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, and metals. Based on these analyses, the following contaminants were detected above the applicable cleanup levels and are considered Contaminants of Concern (COCs) at this site:

- DRO
- GRO
- Benzene
- Toluene
- Ethylbenzene
- Xylenes
- 1,2,4 and 1,3,5 trimethylbenzene
- Mercury

Cleanup Levels
Soil cleanup levels applicable to the site are the most stringent Method 2 cleanup levels for the under 40-inches of precipitation climate zone found in 18 AAC 75.341(c), Table B1 and 18 AAC 75.341(d), Table B2. Groundwater cleanup levels applicable to this site are found in 18 AAC 75.345, Table C.

Table 1 – Approved Cleanup Levels

Contaminant	Soil (mg/kg)	Groundwater (µg/L)
DRO	250	1,500
GRO	10,000	1,100
Benzene	0.022	4.6
Toluene	6.7	1,100
Ethylbenzene	0.13	15
Xylenes	1.5	190
1,2,4-trimethylbenzene	0.61	56
1,3,5-trimethylbenzene	0.66	60
Mercury	0.36	0.52

Notes:
1. mg/kg = milligrams per kilogram
2. µg/L = micrograms per liter

Characterization and Cleanup Activities
Site characterization occurred in 2007 and included the excavation of test pits, collection of surface and subsurface soil samples, and installation of groundwater monitoring wells. All of the areas identified in 1994 were sampled as part of the 2007 site characterization effort. Sampling results indicated soil and groundwater contamination was present at the burn pit, but not in other areas of the facility.

To further evaluate the presence of contamination, forty boreholes were advanced in 2008 and screened using rapid-optical screening tools (ROST) and laser-induced fluorescence (LIF). The ROST/LIF effort

confirmed the presence of contamination at the former burn pit and provided for a rough delineation of contamination.

To refine the extent of contamination at the burn pit and plan for remedial action, a site investigation was conducted in 2016. The investigation included installation of 18 soil borings, collection of 42 soil samples, installation of six monitoring wells and collection of groundwater samples from the six new wells and five existing wells. Results of 2016 effort indicated approximately 10,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil was present at the burn pit area and groundwater contamination covered an area of at least 27,000 square feet.

In 2017, facility improvements such as the two ASTs, two underground storage tanks (USTs), and sections of pipeline were removed. Additional areas of contamination were not identified during these removal efforts. A regulated underground injection control (UIC) well was identified at the site and closed in coordination with EPA in 2018.

Remedial action at the burn pit was conducted in 2018 and included the excavation and offsite treatment of over 7,000 cy of petroleum contaminated soil. Confirmation samples from the edges of the excavation bottom did not contain contaminants above cleanup levels.

Burn Pit exvavation-2018

Groundwater sampling in the vicinity of the burn pit was conducted until 2022, by which time all contaminants were below Table C cleanup levels. The wells were decommissioned in accordance with DEC guidance in 2024.

Cumulative Risk Evaluation

Pursuant to 18 AAC 75.325(g), when detectable contamination remains on-site following a cleanup, a cumulative risk determination must be made that the risk from hazardous substances does not exceed a cumulative carcinogenic risk standard of 1 in 100,000 across all exposure pathways and does not exceed a cumulative noncarcinogenic risk standard at a hazard index (HI) of 1 across all exposure pathways.

Based on a review of the environmental record, DEC has determined that residual contaminant concentrations meet the human health cumulative risk criteria for residential land use.

Exposure Pathway Evaluation

Following investigation and cleanup at the site, exposure to the remaining contaminants was evaluated using DEC's Exposure Tracking Model (ETM). Exposure pathways are the conduits by which contamination may reach human or ecological receptors. ETM results show all pathways to be one of the following: De Minimis Exposure, Exposure Controlled, or Pathway Incomplete. A summary of this pathway evaluation is included in Table 2.

Table 2 – Exposure Pathway Evaluation

Pathway	Result	Explanation
Surface Soil Contact	Pathway Incomplete	Contamination is not present in surface soil (0 to 2 feet below ground surface).
Subsurface Soil Contact	Pathway Incomplete	Contamination is not present in subsurface soil (2 to 15 below ground surface) at concentrations that exceed the human health or direct contact cleanup levels
Inhalation – Outdoor Air	Pathway Incomplete	Contamination remains in the subsurface below human health and inhalation levels.
Inhalation – Indoor Air (vapor intrusion)	Pathway Incomplete	Groundwater contaminant data did not contain concentrations above vapor intrusion screening levels.
Groundwater Ingestion	De Minimis Exposure	Groundwater is not used as a drinking water source at the site. Groundwater sample results show contaminant concentration below 18 AAC 75.345, Table C values.
Surface Water Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	Surface water is not used as a drinking water source in the vicinity of the site.
Wild and Farmed Foods Ingestion	Pathway Incomplete	Contaminants of concern do not have the potential to bioaccumulate in plants or animals.
Exposure to Ecological Receptors	Pathway Incomplete	There are no complete exposure pathways to ecological receptors at the site.

Notes:

1. "De Minimis Exposure" means that, in DEC's judgment, the receptors are unlikely to be adversely affected by the minimal volume or concentration of remaining contamination.
2. "Pathway Incomplete" means that, in DEC's judgment, the contamination has no potential to contact receptors.
3. "Exposure Controlled" means there is an IC in place limiting land or groundwater use and there may be a physical barrier in place that prevents contact with residual contamination.

DEC Decision
Soil and groundwater contamination at the site have been cleaned up to concentrations below the approved cleanup levels suitable for residential land use. This site will receive a "Cleanup Complete" designation on the Contaminated Sites Database.

DEC approval is required for movement and disposal of soil and/or groundwater subject to the Site Cleanup Rules, in accordance with 18 AAC 75.325(i). Please contact DEC for information about applicable regulations and requirements. A "site", as defined by 18 AAC 75.990, means an area that is contaminated, including areas contaminated by the migration of hazardous substances from a source area, regardless of property ownership.

Movement or use of contaminated material in an ecologically sensitive area or in a manner that results in a violation of 18 AAC 70 water quality standards is prohibited. Furthermore, groundwater throughout Alaska is protected for use as a water supply for drinking, culinary and food processing, agriculture including irrigation and stock watering, aquaculture, and industrial use. Contaminated site cleanup complete determinations are based on groundwater being considered a potential drinking water source. If, in the future, groundwater from this site is to be used for other purposes, additional testing and treatment may be required to ensure the water is suitable for its intended use.

This determination is in accordance with 18 AAC 75.380 and does not preclude DEC from requiring additional assessment and/or cleanup action if information indicates that contaminants at this site may pose an unacceptable risk to human health, safety, or welfare or to the environment.

Informal Reviews and Adjudicatory Hearings
A person authorized under a provision of 18 AAC 15 may request an informal review of a contested decision by the Division Director in accordance with 18 AAC 15.185 and/or an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 18 AAC 15.195 – 18 AAC 15.340. See DEC's "Appeal a DEC Decision" web page https://dec.alaska.gov/commish/review-guidance/ for access to the required forms and guidance on the appeal process. Please provide a courtesy copy of the adjudicatory hearing request in an electronic format to the parties required to be served under 18 AAC 15.200. Requests must be submitted no later than the deadline specified in 18 AAC 15.

If you have questions about this closure decision, please feel free to contact me at (907) 269-3057, or email at bill.oconnell@alaska.gov

Sincerely,

William A. O'Connell

Bill O'Connell
Project Manager

cc: Alyssa Millard, ADNR
DEC, SPAR, Cost Recovery Unit