



Alaska Department of
Environmental Conservation
Contaminated Sites Program

Camp Lonely Landfill

Background Information and Current Status

March 17, 2005
Anchorage, AK

Presentation Outline

- History of Camp Lonely Landfill
- Current Status of Camp Lonely Landfill
- ADEC Position on Eroding Landfills



Camp Lonely &
Pt. Lonely
POW-1 DEW
Line

Point Lonely POW-1 DEW Line Line

- Point Lonely POW-1 DEW Line station began operation in 1953
- Purpose of the Distant Early Warning System (DEW Line) was to detect and report airborne traffic





Camp Lonely 1979, image courtesy BLM

Lonely Exploration Camp 1970's

- Camp first used for National Petroleum Reserve (NPR) exploration activities by the Department of the Navy, the NPR contractor, Husky Oil
- Exploration activities transferred from the Navy to the USGS in 1977
- Husky Oil retained exploration contract with the USGS when the land transferred



Camp Lonely Landfill

1970's

- ADEC Solid Waste Program requested Husky obtain a waste disposal permit in 1976 for Camp Lonely
- Husky received a solid waste permit from ADEC #NR-32-77
- Landfill was to be used exclusively by the US Navy and Husky
- In 1978, the permit was amended and issued to USGS and Husky. The landfill could also be used by the Point Lonely DEW Line contractor.



Camp Lonely Landfill Waste 1970's

- Before 1978, solid waste from other drill camps was flown to Camp Lonely for disposal
- Most waste was incinerated before being placed in landfill
- Metal, glass, ash, rubber, hydrocarbon products, chemicals, and domestic wastes were placed in the landfill
- Husky Oil allowed unauthorized materials to be placed in the landfill (batteries, oily wastes, 55 gallon drums, etc.)

Camp Lonely 1980's

- 1981: Husky Oil abandoned the camp
- 1983: Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI) leased the camp from the Bureau of Land Management
- CIRI applies for a solid waste permit in 1983 for the landfill



Photo courtesy Air Force, 2004

Camp Lonely Landfill

1980's

- CIRI received solid waste disposal permit #8331-BA001 from ADEC in 1983 (permit expires in 1988)
- 1983 – Agreement between CIRI and Air Force
- 1986 – Second agreement between CIRI and Air Force

CIRI – Air Force Letter of Agreement December 1983

- Agreement between 4700th Air Defense Squadron, Peterson Air Force Base (Colorado) and CIRI
- Point Lonely POW-1 DEW Line may use the CIRI landfill at Camp Lonely.
- CIRI will maintain ADEC permits
- Agreement remains in effect until December 1984

Camp Lonely Landfill

1986

- June – ADEC observes debris in the landfill and lagoon
- July - CIRI finds unauthorized material such as waste oil, paint solvents, epoxy, scrap metal, and dye in landfill



Photo courtesy Air Force, 2004

CIRI – Air Force Continues Agreement September 1986

- Memorandum of Understanding
 - CIRI allows the Air Force to continue using the Camp Lonely Landfill as long as they are in compliance and will close the landfill with permit stipulations and state/federal regulations
 - After Air Force closes Camp Lonely Landfill, CIRI can use the Point Lonely POW-1 DEW Line landfill

Camp Lonely Landfill 1986-1990

- From 1986-1990, the Camp Lonely landfill is included in Air Force remedial investigation activities for DEW Line sites
- Air Force abandons Point Lonely POW-1 in 1989



Photo courtesy Air Force, 2004

Environmental Investigations 1986-1990

- 1986: Open-burning of waste and wastes placed near lagoon adjacent to landfill
- 1987: Improved conditions but wastes still placed at the edge of the fill
 - Elevated chromium levels and numerous oil sheens
- 1988: Total aromatic hydrocarbons in excess of 15 ppb, total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) in the sediments at 1300 mg/kg
- 1990: Presence of solvents, BTEX, TPH, and erosion problems

Camp Lonely Landfill Closure 1989

- Air Force contractor attempts to close landfill
- ADEC does not accept closure due to missing drawings showing the limits of solid waste disposition



Photo courtesy Air Force, 2004

Camp Lonely Landfill

1990's

- 1990: ADEC approves closure upon receiving "as-built" drawings of the wrong landfill
- 1992: ADEC reviews file on landfill and finds the ADEC closure of landfill was in error due to missing drawings
- 1993: Air Force refers case to Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence

Camp Lonely Landfill

Current Status 2004

- BLM and Air Force visit the site and find exposed debris and free product migrating into surface-water bodies
- Presence of diesel range organics



Photo courtesy Air Force, 2004



Photo courtesy Air Force, 2004



Photo courtesy Air Force, 2004



Photo courtesy Air Force, 2004

Coastal Erosion at Camp Lonely



Courtesy of
BLM, S. Flora

Estimated Costs of Remediating Eroding Landfills

- Mobilization/demobilization remote sites ~\$1 Million
- Landfill site assessments ~\$150,000+
- Cleanup
 - Removal ~\$1-2 Million per acre
 - Stabilization ~\$1-2 Million per acre
 - O & M ~\$700,000

Eroding Landfill Remedial Options

- Consider removal as an alternative
- If waste is left in place, a closure plan preventing release of contaminants is required
 - Long-term operation and maintenance plan
 - Long-term monitoring
 - Emergency Response Plan
 - Institutional Controls

ADEC Position on Eroding Landfills

- Standard risk assessment not applicable
- Solid Waste, Water Quality, Contaminated Sites regulations apply



Discussion Session

- Questions or comments about presentation?
- Discussion
 - Identify responsible parties
 - Site assessment/treatment options
 - Long-term management plan



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