

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Pelican Seafoods, Inc
Anhydrous Ammonia

SITREP #: 4 and final

SPILL NUMBER: 09119923202

LEDGER CODE: 14277560

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: 2:50 PM on August 25, 2009

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 2:00PM on September 24, 2009

TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT: This is the final report.

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: This is an informational sitrep on the current situation at the Pelican Seafoods facility in Pelican, AK. There has been no release reported to the Department, but the situation presents a potential anhydrous ammonia release.

LOCATION: Pelican Seafoods, Inc. - Pelican, AK.

CAUSE OF SPILL: Beginning on August 16, 2009, heavy rains in Pelican caused severe flooding of the area. At approximately 2:30 AM on August 20, 2009, a 30-foot section of the water flume supplying water to both the City of Pelican and the Pelican hydroelectric plant collapsed, damaging the main water supply line and leaving the town without a water supply. Water from the flume also provides cooling water to the Pelican Seafoods fish processing facility's refrigeration system. The hydroelectric plant was undergoing maintenance at the time of the incident and the town was already using the backup diesel generator.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Ed Bahrt; Ed Bahrt & Associates, LLC; and Kake Tribal Corporation.

RESPONSE ACTION: The water flow has been restored, eliminating the potential for an uncontrolled release of anhydrous ammonia from the plant. A new pump setup on the flume by-pass line, installed as part of the Village Safe Water (VSW) and Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) water project in Pelican, provides sufficient water for both the domestic water needs of the residents of Pelican and for cooling the compressors at the plant refrigeration system. This line cannot supply enough water to also run the hydroelectric plant when it is reinstalled.

Temporary repairs to the damaged flume are underway. This repair includes the installation of three or four 12-inch HDPE plastic pipes spanning the damaged section of the flume. This temporary repair will, when completed, replace the by-pass line currently providing water to Pelican and may provide enough water to run the hydroelectric generators when they are reinstalled this fall. At this time the Pelican Utility District is supplying all electric needs with diesel generators.

The 300-foot section of the city's original sixty-year old steel water distribution piping has suffered numerous breaks during this incident. Parts to replace this section of piping have been ordered from Seattle and are expected on site sometime next week, to be installed as soon as possible after arrival.

ADEC has issued letters to both potential responsible parties requesting plans outlining how they intend to mitigate or control a release of anhydrous ammonia should one occur do to the failure of the temporary by-pass water line or a disruption in the electric service to the seafood plant.

SOURCE CONTROL: There was no discharge. Sufficient water flow has been re-established in Pelican to provide water to both the city residents and the plant.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: There has been no release of anhydrous ammonia at this time.

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Both potential responsible parties are to submit to ADEC a plan of action on how they will mitigate or control a release of anhydrous ammonia should one occur.

ADEC will continue to monitor the situation in Pelican as it relates to the possible discharge of anhydrous ammonia.

The City of Pelican and a contractor will continue to perform necessary repairs to the Pelican water distribution piping. Temporary repairs to the flume will be completed when the parts arrive and weather permitting.

The construction project to upgrade the electric and water systems will continue until completed next year as part of the planned VSW and AEA project.

WEATHER: Rain, heavy at times. Southeast winds 35 mph with gust up to 50mph.

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander: Patricia Phillips, Mayor of Pelican
 F.O.S.C.: Capt. Melissa Bert, USCG
 S.O.S.C.: Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC
 Field S.O.S.C.: None

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Scot W. Tiernan, ADEC, 907-465-5378

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

This sitrep has been distributed via email to the Governor's office, ADF&G, ADNR, SECC, USEPA, USDOL, NMFS, USFWS, and USFS in addition to the following.

Agency	Name	Sent Via	Additional Info	Telephone	Fax
Senate Dist. A	Senator Bert Stedman	E-mail	senator_bert_stedman@legis.state.ak.us	465-3873	465-3922
Senate Dist. C	Senator Al Kookesh	Fax	session	465-3473	465-2827
House Dist. 2	Representative Peggy Wilson	Fax	session	465-3824	465-3175
House Dist. 5	Representative Bill Thomas	Fax	session	465-3732	465-2652
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Lt. Latarsha McQueen	Email	Latarsha.s.mcqueen@uscg.mil	463-2835	463-2445
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Matt Jones	Email	Matt.n.jones@uscg.mil	463-2452	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Cdr. Kurt Clarke	Email	Kurt.a.clarke@uscg.mil	463-2475	
USCG (Sector Juneau)	Capt. Melissa Bert	Email	Melissa.bert@uscg.mil	463-2836	
USDA Forest Service - Tongass Env. Engineer	Michele Marie Parker	Email	mmparker@fs.fed.us	772-5850	772-5896
USDA Forest Service - Hoonah Ranger District	District Ranger Rich Jennings	Email	rdjennings@fs.fed.us	945-1201	945-3385
NMFS	Jon Kurland	Email	Jon.kurland@noaa.gov	586-7638	586-7358
ADF&G	Jackie Timothy	Email	jackie.timothy@alaska.gov	465-4275	
Organized Village of Kake	President Henrich Kadake	Fax	keexkwaan@kakefirstnation.org	785-6471	785-4902
City of Kake	Mayor Henrich Kadake	E-mail	city.of.kake@gmail.com	785-3804	785-4815
City of Pelican	Mayor Patricia Phillips	Fax	cityhall@pelicancity.net	735-2202	735-2258
SEAPRO	Dave Owings	Email	dave@seapro.org	225-7002	247-1117

Kake Tribal Corporation	Paula Burgner	Fax		735-2296	
DEC - Village Safe Water	Philip Gagnon	Email	Philip.gagnon@alaska.gov	269-2681	
DMVA	Claude Denver	Email	Claude.denver@alaska.gov	428-7090	
DEC – Water Quality	Bill Griffith	Email	bill.griffith@alaska.gov	229-4695	
DEC – Water Quality	Greg Magee	Email	Greg.magee@alaska.gov	269-7613	
Office of the Governor	Randall Ruaro	Email	randall.ruaro@alaska.gov	465-3500	
MVA – Commissioners Office	McHugh Pierre	Email	mchugh.pierre@alaska.gov	428-7091	