

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

SITUATION REPORT

INCIDENT NAME: Gambell Drinking Water Well

SITREP #: 3 and final

SPILL NUMBER: 09389927801

LEDGER CODE: No ledger code was assigned

TIME/DATE OF SPILL: The Gambell Water Plant operator reported the potential spill to ADEC on October 6, 2009.

TIME/DATE OF SITUATION REPORT: 4:00 PM on October 22, 2009

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

TYPE/AMOUNT OF PRODUCT SPILLED: The ADEC Responder on site visited with some kids that were in the area. They stated that a small amount of gasoline had dribbled out of the fuel tank of a four wheeler when it was turned over. No evidence of a petroleum release could be found.

LOCATION: Village of Gambell on the northwest corner of St. Lawrence Island is located in the Bering Sea over 230 miles west of Nome, Alaska.

CAUSE OF SPILL: No evidence of a release was discovered.

POTENTIAL RESPONSIBLE PARTY (PRP): Unknown

RESPONSE ACTION: The sheen in the city well infiltration gallery and the holding tanks was found to be caused by organic matter. The ADEC Division of Water Quality/Village Safe Water Program and Division of Environmental Health/Drinking Water Program worked with the City Water Plant operator to collect appropriate waters samples for analysis. An ADEC spill responder was dispatched to Gambell to assess the site for any fuel spills. No evidence of spilled fuel was found. While on site, the ADEC spill responder interviewed the local law enforcement personnel and one of the Gambell residents who was allegedly involved in the spill. The interview did not reveal any potential sources.

Two water samples were collected from the Gambell Water Plant: one from the infiltration gallery (well) and one from the newest water holding tank. Both samples were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOC), a class of chemicals that reflect petroleum contamination. The sample collected from the infiltration gallery showed no signs of VOC. The sample collected from the holding tank showed trace amounts of VOC, which were well below the drinking water standards.

SOURCE CONTROL: No source was identified.

RESOURCES AFFECTED: None

FUTURE PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: No further action will be taken.

WEATHER: Patchy fogs, temperature 35 – 45 degrees F, winds 20 – 40 mph

UNIFIED COMMAND AND PERSONNEL:

Incident Commander:	Bryant Koonooka (Gambell Water Plant)
S.O.S.C.:	Tom DeRuyter (ADEC)
Field S.O.S.C.:	Brian Jackson (ADEC)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom DeRuyter, ADEC, (907) 451-2145

AGENCY/STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION LIST

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

STATE AGENCY	NAME	SENT VIA	ADDITIONAL INFO	TELEPHONE	FAX
Alaska State Troopers	Nome	Fax		443-2835	443-5840
EPA	Matt Carr	Fax		271-5083 or 257-1342	271-3424
Attorney General Office	Cam Leonard/ Steve Mulder	Fax		451-2811/451-2914	451-2985/ 278-7022
Governor's Office (Fairbanks)	Parnell/Campbell	Fax		451-2920	451-2858
Lt. Governor's Office (Juneau)	Parnell/Campbell	Fax			465-5400
Legislator (Senate T)	Donnie Olson (D)	Fax	Nome	465-3707	465-4821
Legislator (House 39)	Richard Foster (D)	Fax	Nome	465-3789 or (800) 478-3789	465-3242
Legislator (House 40)	Reggie Joule (D)	Fax	Kotzebue	465-4833 or (800) 782-4833	465-4586



Building surrounding the infiltration gallery. Photo by ADEC.



The gas container initially thought to have been the source. Photo by ADEC.



The reported spill site. Photo by ADEC.



Organic sheen in one of the holding tanks. Photo by ADEC.