Public Works - U.S. Army Alaska

Environmental Department

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FAX TRANSMITTAL SHEET

From: MAJ Kevin Gardner

Thru:

For: Mr. Colin Wykes

Environment Canada

Fax: 604-666-6858

Date: 12 September 1994

Total number of pages including cover:

Messages/Comments:

Colin, I have taken the liberty to forward another report to you I stumbled across late this afternoon. Unfortunately, it does not detail garbage disposal operations, but does offer some documentation concerning site investigations a few years after the former pump stations and pipeline had been transferred to Canada. It may that some of the folks associated with this particular investigation can provide additional leads or sources of information. I do not know if this particular firm (URS Corporation) is still in business, locally or otherwise, but will find out. Best regards!

DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION ACCOUNT Contract No. DACA 85-86-C-0015

Inventory Report for

-- HAINES TO FAIRBANKS-PIPELINE

Prepared by:

URS Corporation 301 West Northern Lights Boulevard Suite 401 Anchorage, Alaska 99503

January, 1987

Submitted to:

U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska

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1.0 SUMMARY

The 626 mile Haines to Fairbanks Pipeline extends from Haines, Alaska, through Canada to Fairbanks, Alaska. Fourteen storage and/or pump station terminals are located along the route.

Under direction of the Army Corps of Engineers, URS Corporation conducted a limited field investigation of the pipeline between Fairbanks and the Canadian Border on August 12 and 13, 1986. This investigation involved only a selective visual check of the pipeline and facilities at easily accessible points.

The only apparent debris associated with this site is the eight inch pipeline and 14 terminals along the pipeline. A report entitled "Description of Alaskan Military Petroleum Facilities," Pamphlet 360-1, 1978, describes the Haines to Fairbanks Pipeline and associated facilities. No POLs or hazardous materials were identified. However, access to the terminals was not possible at the time of the field inventory, and minimal portions of the pipeline were visible from the Alaskan Highway.

Prior to initiating any site cleanup and restoration along the pipeline, a thorough land ownership and land status investigation will be necessary in order to determine the desires of individual owners. Upon completion of this investigation, field sampling and site reconnaissance may be required. Until a complete site investigation and debris inventory is conducted, suggestions for cleanup and restoration cannot be made.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

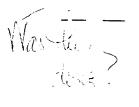
In March, 1986, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District, contracted URS Corporation to investigate various former Department of Defense (DOD) properties in Alaska under Contract No. 85-86-C-0015. This work is being conducted under the Defense Environmental Restoration Account (DERA), as authorized by the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 1984 (Public Law 2002) 98-212), and provides a methodology for determining the eligibility of selected sites for remedial actions under this program.

The Corps of Engineers has contracted URS to prepare an inventory report for each site identified in the Scope of Work dated March 17, 1986, including:

A general history of the site and its use; Determination of current land ownership and status;

Determination of the presence of military materials or debris

at the site; and Evaluation of the eligibility of the site for possible remediation under the DERA Program.





The intent of this project is to identify sites that contain military debris or materials of concern, such as POLs and environmentally hazardous substances, and those that require no further investigation. Section 4.0 discusses criteria for this determination.

3.0 PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION

3.1 Location

The Haines/Fairbanks pipeline begins at approximately 3½ miles north of Haines, Alaska, at Lutak Inlet, and follows the Haines Highway into Canada to Haines Junction, then along the Alaska Highway via Tok, Big Delta, Elelson Air Force Base and to its terminus at Fairbanks Terminal, 7 miles northeast of Fairbanks, Alaska.

3.2 Historical Background

Historical information on the Haines/Fairbanks Pipeline was taken from "Description of Alaskan Military Petroleum Facilities," Pamphlet 360-1, Department of the Army, 1720 Infantry Brigade, Alaska.

Between 1950 and 1952, the Haines/Fairbanks Pipeline was designed for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers by the Fluor Corporation, Los Angeles, California. Field construction began early in 1954, with the main pipeline essentially completed before the winter season of 1954-1955. Stations and storage facilities were complete during the summer of 1955, and the necessary testing of the line was completed prior to 12 October 1955, on which date the United States Army, Alaska, accepted the pipeline and facilities.

The pipeline was constructed to transport liquid fuels from the deep water port of Haines, in Southeast Alaska, to military installations North of the Alaska Range in Interior Alaska. To meet the military needs, petroleum products from ocean tankers or tanker barges were received in bulk terminal facilities at Haines. From this point, the petroleum products were transported by the 8-inch, multiproduct pipeline to the Fairbanks area.

The line is composed of 626 miles of 8-inch pipeline, nine booster pump stations (Border, Blanchard River, Junction, Destruction Bay, Donjek, Beaver Creek, Lakeview, Sears Creek, and Timber), Fort Greely Takeoff Station, Birch Lake Tank Farm, and supporting terminal bulk storage tanks and related equipment and facilities at Haines, Tok, Eielson Air Force Base, and Fairbanks.

Most of the pipeline is surface laid, although the sections from Haines Terminal to a point 42 pipeline miles northward, and from Big Delta to Fairbanks Terminal are buried (96 pipeline miles). These sections were buried to minimize the hazard to private property and residents in these most congested areas, and to protect the pipeline from damage by heavy vehicular equipment. In addition, short sections along the route are buried to protect station personnel,

equipment and the line from possible vehicular damage and washouts during flash floods.

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In 1973, the Haines/Fairbanks Pipeline was excessed to military needs and has been up for sale by GSA since that time.

3.3 Ownership and Land Status

The scope of this project was limited to a selective visual check of the pipeline at easily accessible points. A detailed real estate search to determine ownership and land status was not part of this project, and therefore was not conducted. Land ownership and status along the pipeline is diverse, including Federal, State, and private /ownership,

- ELIGIBILITY FOR DERA RESTORATION 4.0
- 4.1 Eligibility Criteria

Remedial actions under the DERA Program require that a number of criteria be considered, including prior military use of the property, current land use, and the wishes of the owner. The sites identified for investigation in this project's Scope of Work are based upon Corps of Engineers records, which indicate that the subject properties were used by the military. In many cases, little information is available to determine the function, use, and condition of the properties, requiring research of the history and land ownership of the sites. This information has been used to establish criteria for determining whether a formal site inspection and inventory is required for each site.

Three criteria have been identified for this determination. Α "negative" report is to be prepared if:

- The property was acquired, but never used by the military; ٥
- The property is still owned by the military and in active use; 0
- The landowner states that no military-related debris is at the 0 site and/or desires no action on the part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with regard to cleanup or restoration.

If any of these criteria is met, site inspections and inventories will not be performed. The report will recommend that no further actions be taken by URS or the Corps of Engineers for that particular site. If none of these criteria are met, a "positive" report is to be prepared, for which site inspections and inventories will be performed to:

- Develop an inventory of types and approximate volumes of 0 debris;
- Identify existing and potential disposal sites for the debris; 0
- Assess potential restoration alternatives; and 0
- Prepare a preliminary cost estimate for the recommended restoration alternative(s).

4.2 Site Eligibility Evaluation

Because the Haines to Fairbanks Pipeline was developed and used by the military, it is eligible for site cleanup and restoration under the DERA Program. A limited field investigation and debris inventory was conducted at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' request.

- 5.0 FIELD INVESTIGATIONS
- 5.1 Debris Material Inventory

The limited site investigation/debris inventory conducted by URS Corporation on August 12 and 13, 1986 found no apparent debris associated with the Haines to Fairbanks pipeline (Fairbanks to Canadian Border section) except the pipeline itself and associated pump stations, signs, and milepost markers. A site investigation of the Haines to Canadian Border portion of the pipeline was not conducted, since it was not considered necessary by the Corps of Engineers.

A report entitled "Description of Alaskan Military Petroleum Facilities" describes in detail the Haines/Fairbanks Pipeline and its associated pump station facilities. Refer to this document for more information about the quantity and types of facilities along the pipeline system. The information in this document can readily be used to help determine future user or disposal options.

5.2 POL and Hazardous Material Inventory

Potential POL or hazardous materials were not identified by the site inventory crew because access to the pump stations was not possible at the time of this site investigation. Therefore, POLs and hazardous materials may exist at these sites, although there is no indication that they are present at this time.

5.3 /Site Information

5.3.1 Environmental Constraints

There are no environmental constraints apparent which would affect the cleanup and restoration at the various pump stations and terminals along the Haines to Fairbanks pipeline. These pump stations and terminals are easily accessible by road along the Alaska Highway.

The cleanup and restoration of the pipeline itself could in some areas cause more damage to the environment than would abandoning the pipeline in place. The pipeline crosses discontinuous permafrost, wetlands, uplands, and streams. Site specific environmental impact mitigations must be delineated for each of the physiographically distinct pipeline segments. Finally, the land paralleling the pipeline is heavily revegetated and less accessible than the pump stations and terminals.

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5.3.2 Cultural Factors

Removal of the pipeline and associated facilities will have no impact upon historic or cultural resources. It could, in certain areas, have beneficial social impacts where the owner(s) would like unsightly, or possibly unsafe, debris removed.

5.4 Disposal Sites

Assuming no POLs or hazardous materials are identified along the pipeline or at the pump stations and terminals, disposal of debris could be at any permitted disposal facility. The large area involved in this site (626 miles) would necessitate the need for several disposal sites along the Alaska Highway. Several DEC permitted disposal sites are located along the Highway between Fairbanks and the border, including Fort Wainwright and Fort Greely.

If hazardous wastes or POLs are found, disposal would be allowed only at an EPA/DEC approved disposal facility for hazardous wastes.

-Other Observations-

A thorough investigation of the Fairbanks to Canadian Border portion of the Haines to Fairbanks pipeline was hampered by the inaccessibility of pump stations and terminals. Also, the pipeline was not entirely visible from the Alaska Highway.

The report, "Description of Alaskan Military Petroleum Facilities," mentions that weekly aerial surveillance of the pipeline was performed. This was done with civilian aircraft under contract to the military. Army records of this surveillance provided by the pilots may have information regarding debris along the pipeline.

6.0 RESTORATION CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Field Sampling Program and Site Reconnaissance

If the Fairbanks to Canadian Border portion of the Haines to Fairbanks pipeline is to be considered for cleanup and restoration under the DERA Program, further site reconnaissance is necessary. The pump stations and terminals should be further examined to identify possible POLs or hazardous materials. Although all buildings and equipment at the pump stations and terminals are discussed in the report "Description of Alaskan Military Petroleum Facilities," site reconnaissance should include measuring buildings and tanks to estimate the volume of materials for cleanup. Further investigation of the pipeline might best be accomplished by aerial surveillance to identify any obvious debris along the pipeline route.

6.2 Restoration Alternatives

Prior to initiating any site restoration, a thorough real estate search would be necessary to determine present ownership. This would allow the Corps of Engineers to determine the property owners' desires and to make arrangements for further site investigation. In several cases, the pump stations are being used, and removal of all facilities and improvements may not be required by the property owner. A land owner may want portions of the improvements to remain and other improvements removed. In some cases, the improvements may not be considered a problem, but any POLs or hazardous materials should be identified and disposed.

Recommendations for site restoration will vary, since the Haines to Fairbanks Pipeline is actually many separate sites subject to the desires of individual owners. In general, restoration will include regrading and reseeding disturbed areas.

6.3 Preliminary Cost Estimate

Until the owners desires are determined, the extent of cleanup and restoration required is uncertain. The amount of debris involved is unclear, and the cost for disposing of this debris can not be determined without further site reconnaissance and research.

6.4 Site Prioritization

The site and locations within a site are assigned priority for restoration according to the following criteria. Of the highest priority is a site (location) containing an eminent safety hazard, one that poses a known threat to human life, health, or safety. A number two priority is a site (location) that poses a possible human safety hazard and/or a location with significant environmental impact or potential impact. Last in the prioritization are sites (locations) that contain inert or unsightly debris. This includes materials that pose no potential hazard or environmental impact.

The Haines to Fairbanks pipeline and associated pump stations are of low priority for cleanup and restoration under the DERA Program. There is no indication that POLs or hazardous materials exist, although further site reconnaissance may prove otherwise, changing this site's priority accordingly.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

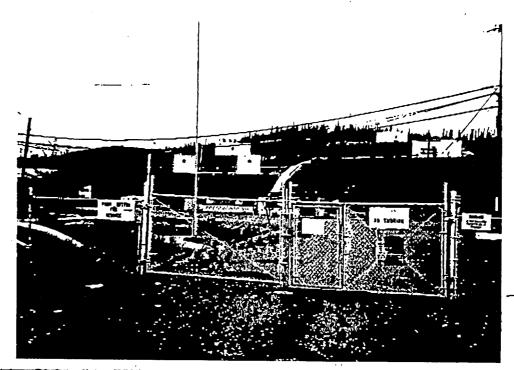
A limited site investigation/debris inventory conducted by URS Corporation at the request of the Army Corps of Engineers confirmed that debris related to the Haines to Fairbanks pipeline exists. Therefore, this site is assigned a "positive" designation, and it is recommended that the Corps of Engineers take necessary actions to further investigate this site under the DERA Program. Recommended actions include determination of land ownership, status, and the desires of the owners. Upon learning the owners desires, a complete debris inventory with recommendations for site cleanup and restoration could be conducted.

APPENDIX A References

LIST OF CONTACTS

"Description of Alaskan Military Petroleum Facilities" Pamphlet 360-1, Department of the Army 1720 Infantry Brigade, Alaska October 1978

APPENDIX B EPA Inventory Forms and Photographs

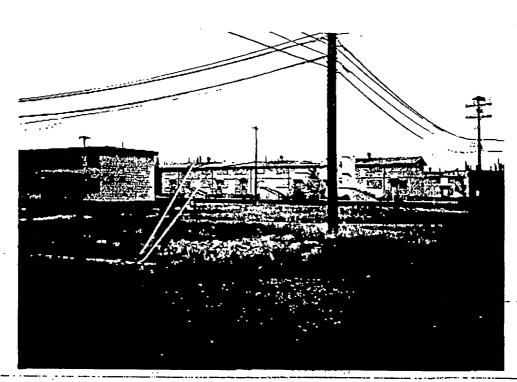


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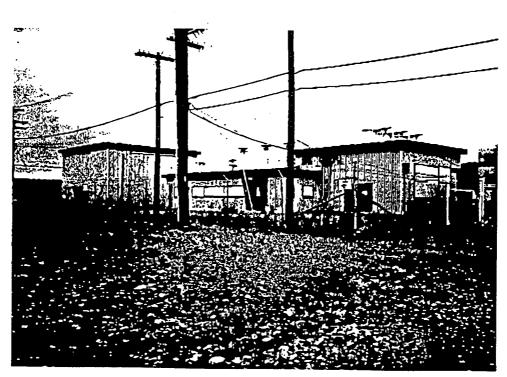


TOK TERMINAL

URS Corporation Anchorage, Alaska



HOUSING @ TOK TERMINAL



OPERATIONS BLOGS. @ TOK TERMINALS

URS Corporation Anchorage, Alaska

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DANGER HIGH PRESSURE PIPELINE CROSSING



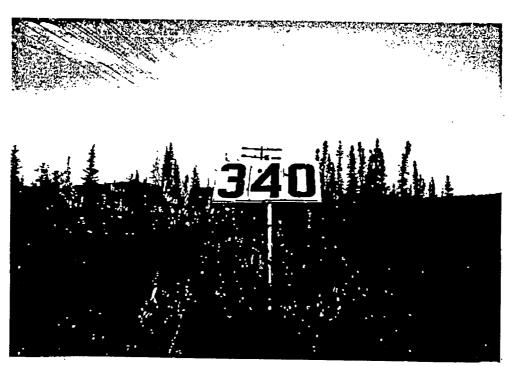


PIPELINE MILEPOST MARKER

URS Corporation Anchorage, Alaska



SEARS CREEK PUMP STATION



PIPELINE MILEPOST MARKER

URS Corporation Anchorage, Alaska

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