

Successful Response and Remediation of a Remote Crude Oil Release in the Canadian North

Presented by Chaymie Hintz and Greg Milne RemTech 2013 | Banff, Alberta | October 2013



About Enbridge



- Operate world's longest liquids pipeline system and Canada's largest natural gas distribution company
- Interest in 80,000 km of pipelines
- Delivers 2 million barrels/day crude and liquid petroleum
- Handles 5 billion cubic ft/day of natural gas
- Employs 10,000+ people
- Wind development capacity of 800 megawatts
- Own and operate the Norman Wells pipeline since 1985
 - 12" crude oil pipeline, 869 km in length
 - Operating capacity of 36,500 bbl/day
 - National Energy Board provides primary regulatory oversight



Incident Overview

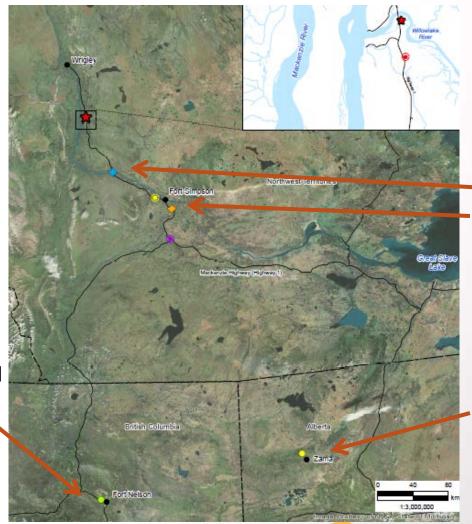
- Release discovered on May 9, 2011
- Initial observations suggested a small release (approximately 4 barrels)
- Initial environmental assessment efforts
 indicated additional oil present in subsurface
- Volume re-assessed to approximately 1600 barrels after delineation
- Contained to land, with no impacts to Willowlake River
- Aggressive remediation goals and schedule



Site Setting

Supporting Facilities: Camp (5km) Sand Quarry (155 km) Staging Area (230 km)

> Fort Nelson Landfill – 645 km (14 hrs) south



Mackenzie River and Liard River – ferry or ice bridge only

Zama Landfill – 800 km (10 hrs) south

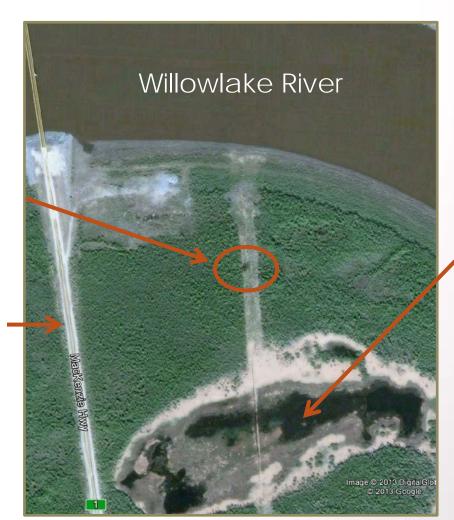
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Site Setting

Wrigley – 50 km north Release Location (approximately 150 m south of Willowlake River at kilometre post 380)

> Mackenzie Highway



Surface water pooled to the south of release

Fort Simpson – 160 km south

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Initial Response

- Emergency response plans implemented using ICS
- Resources mobilized
- Containment
- Monitoring program
- Wildlife management
- Initial Clean-Up Plan (ICP) developed for NEB





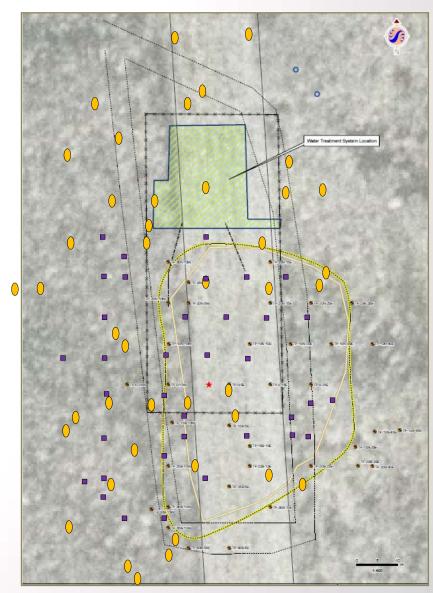
Site Assessment





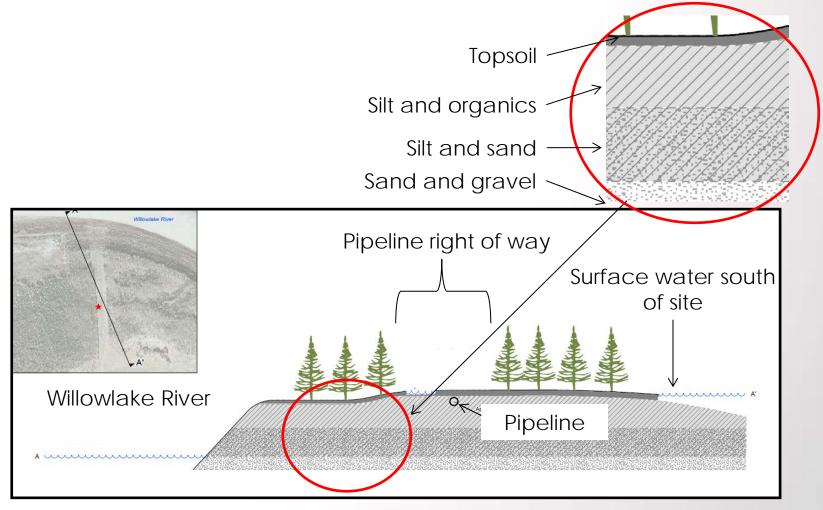
Site Assessment

- Investigation included
 - 54 boreholes and34 monitoring wells
 - 47 test pits
- Supported delineation and volume estimate



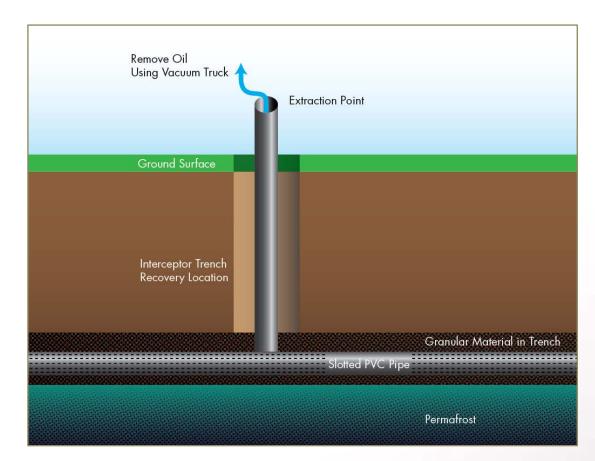


Geologic Conditions

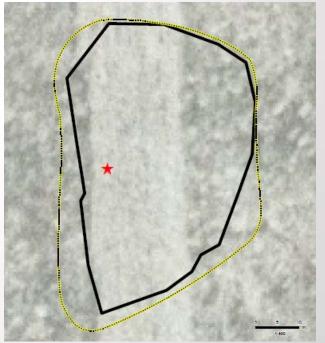




Containment



- Trench keyed into permafrost
- Slotted PVC placed horizontally in trench
- Vertical riser placed for monitoring and recovery





Oil Recovery



- Where significant quantities of free product observed – recovery well constructed
- Product measured daily
- Vacuum truck recovered measured product



Water Management

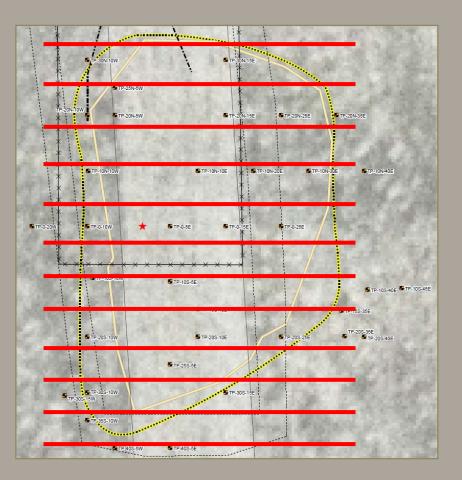
- Water treatment system, assembled on-site
 - settling tanks
 - oil water separator
 - granulated activated
 - carbon vessels
 - sand filters
 - holding tanks
- Discharges approved by NEB and INAC (AANDC)



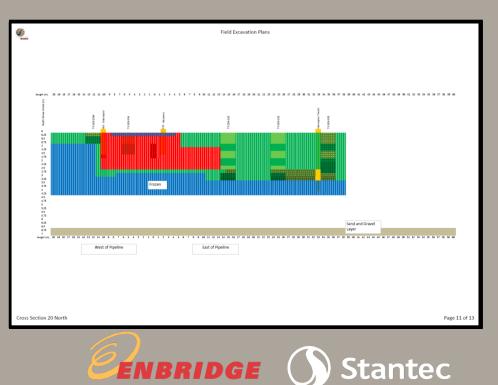




Oil Volume Estimate

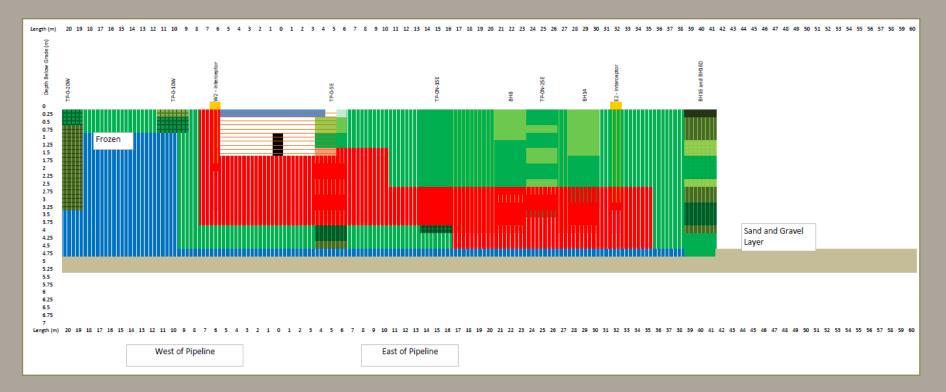


Cross-sections used to calculate representative soil volumes



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Oil Volume Estimate



Volume of oil =

volume of soil x soil density x concentration of oil in soil Density of oil x conversion factor



Site Remediation

- Site-specific criteria established to identify the most applicable guidelines to use as remediation targets.
- Combination of federal (CCME) and provincial (Alberta and Ontario) guidelines.







Site Remediation

- Remedial Action Plan
 approved by NEB.
- Logistical considerations:
 - On-site mobile lab
 - Soil staging areas
 - Establish camp
 - Waste disposal
 - Source backfill
 - Protect wildlife
 - Support active pipeline







Site Remediation: Excavation



Remedial Summary

- Remedial criteria met
- 260 m³ (1600 barrels) of oil recovered
 - 75 m³ as free product
- 500 m³ of water treated
- 12,800 m³ of soil hauled off-site





Reclamation

- Aggregate area used as borrow source
- Salvaged topsoil, trees, and shrubs replaced





Site Status: 2013

- Post-remediation monitoring program underway
- Hydrocarbons have not been detected in groundwater
- Post-reclamation monitoring program underway
- Additional work to address settlement scheduled for fall 2013







Questions?

