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August 22, 2006

Stacey L. Gerard  
Chief Safety Officer  
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U.S. Department of Transportation  
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Subject: BP collusion with Alaska regulator to conceal deficient corrosion control program

Dear Ms. Gerard:

BP management and Governor Frank Murkowski have publicly expressed their great surprise and shock over leaks in Prudhoe's decrepit, corroded, crude transit lines. However, for the public, the real shock is in a review of the records evidencing collusion between BP and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC).

In late 2001, Coffman Engineers Inc. was placed under contract by ADEC to review BP's North Slope Corrosion Monitoring Program and provide reports. Some time ago I discovered Coffman Engineers issued two reports to ADEC. The initial report was highly critical of BP's corrosion program. A replacement and heavily edited report, revised at BP's direction, became the "official" report, that ADEC now acknowledges. I am attaching for OPS' benefit a simple analysis of the disparate reports. The replacement report whitewashes away all the criticisms of the original version and praises BP's corrosion monitoring program. As we look back to this fraudulent report and subsequent reports it is obvious that the Alaskans can not sue BP for the state's losses incurred from the shut down of Prudhoe Bay production. As an example of the collusion in subsequent years, I am enclosing my 02-04-04 letter to EPA Counsel Jeanne Pascal. It refers to the blatantly false, fraudulent report to ADEC/EPA on the 05-27-03 GC-1 crude oil spill onto the tundra.

The lack of industry oversight at Prudhoe is almost akin to the old unregulated Oklahoma oil boom years. I have provided to EPA Criminal Investigation Division copies of both reports along with BP's instructions to ADEC to create the revisions. I understand that soon thereafter the first report disappeared from both Coffman and ADEC offices.

I enclose both reports for your benefit, along with the BP admonition to ADEC and an analysis of the reports by oil industry analyst Glen Plumlee. To accommodate the public interest, the Project on Government Oversight (POGO) has volunteered the use of space on its energy pages to post the above documents ([WWW.POGO.ORG](http://WWW.POGO.ORG)).

Sincerely,

  
Charles Hamel

cc: The Honorable John Dingell, The Honorable George Miller  
Scott West, Special Agent-in-Charge, Criminal Investigation Division, Region X  
Robert Malone, Chairman and President BP USA

Mary Frances Barnes, Production Officer, U.S. District Court, Anchorage  
Ellen G. Engleman, Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board  
Mr. Greg Coleman, HSE Group Vice President, BP, London