

ALASKA

RAILROAD

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Tim Sullivan, 265-2357, 907-223-7372

ARRC Continues Work on Derailment South of Cantwell

Derailed Tank Car Emptied and Re-railed

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Alaska Railroad (ARRC) personnel continue efforts to repair track damaged by a single-car derailment that occurred Jan. 15. ARRC expects rail service to resume late Friday night or early Saturday morning.

Several thousand railroad ties were damaged by the derailed railcar's truck -- the apparatus underneath a railcar that holds the axles and wheels. The truck dropped onto the ties while the train was in motion. The cause of the derailment is still under investigation but the investigation is focusing on a wheel bearing that failed on the derailed car.

Yesterday afternoon, ARRC and Alaska Chadux Corporation safely transferred the contents of the derailed car to another tank car brought to the site from Fairbanks. Today railroad personnel have re-railed the car and moved it to a siding near Cantwell while the investigation continues. The 23,000 gallons of transferred turbine engine fuel (also known as Jet A) will be sent on to Fairbanks, along with the remaining 24 freight cars.

The derailment occurred at 3:14 a.m. Tuesday, when a railcar in the middle of a 76-car freight train derailed at ARRC milepost (MP) 316.8, approximately 3 miles south of Cantwell. The car is a DOT-111 tank. There are no injuries or fuel leaks. The car was part of the regularly scheduled northbound freight train traveling from Anchorage to Fairbanks.

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ARRC is an Equal Opportunity Corporation. If you need special assistance (including language) to participate in any ARRC service, program, or activity, please contact the Alaska Railroad; P.O. Box 107500; Anchorage, AK 99510; Attention: Legal Department, zappasi@akrr.com, (907) 265-2461; via Alaska Relay Service for hearing impaired – dial 7 11 anywhere inside Alaska, OR dial toll-free from anywhere outside the state 1-800-770-8255 (voice); 1-800 770-8973 (TTY). Upon request, printed materials can be made available in alternate formats.