

Kake PCB at 8-foot depth

Juneau — Soil to a depth of 8 feet was contaminated by a spill of the toxic industrial chemical PCB at a landfill in Kake, a state Department of Environmental Conservation official said Tuesday.

DEC Field Officer Alan Kegler said that workers have excavated from 6 to 8 feet of contaminated soil from parts of the landfill on Kupreanof Island in Southeast Alaska. He said "an impervious clay layer" stopped

the toxic chemical from penetrating any deeper.

Tests performed last week on soil samples taken to a depth of 6 inches showed levels of PCB from 50 to 500 parts per million, Kegler said. The Environmental Protection Agency says 50 parts per million is hazardous.

The contaminated material is being stored in leak-proof containers, and will be hauled to Alabama for disposal, he said.