Governor Sends Health Experts to Oil Leak Site

JUNEAU—Governor Keith H. Miller last week dispatched representatives of his Administration to Prudhoe Bay for a first-hand look at the fuel spill that occurred there Thursday.

Miller said he was sending an environmental health expert from the Department of Health and Welfare and a representative of the Department of Fish and Game to survey the spill and investigate possible damages.

"We are vitally concerned about possible environmental damage and the safety of the men working in the area," the Governor said. "State experts have to get a first-hand look at the spill to determine its possible effects."

The spill occurred Thursday when one of the big "fuel bladders" burst, dumping an undetermined amount of JP-5 fuel into the Bay.

Miller said the fire prevention section of the Department of Public Safety has been alerted to the situation and is represented on the North Slope by a State Trooper stationed in Barrow.