



"Citizens promoting environmentally safe operation of the Alyeska terminal and associated tankers."

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PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND
REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

Highlights of Recent Activities
September 23, 2009

The council board met in Whittier, September 17-18.

- Tom Kuckertz of Valdez, Hans Neidig of Anchorage, and Mark Swanson of Houston, Texas were interviewed for the position on Friday. The final decision is not known at this time.
- Tom Colby of Alaska Tanker Co. presented to the board some potential improvements to the current system for spill response in open water. If these technological advancements are found to work, the improvements could permit the response system to stay in compliance with regulatory and statutory requirements while reducing equipment and personnel.
- Approved Financial Audit for Fiscal Year 2010

Other significant recent developments at the council include:

Escort legislation:

During the week of September 28, Cordova board representative Patience Anderson Faulkner, along with staff members Donna Schantz and Stan Jones will be visiting the offices of the Alaska Congressional delegation and other members of Congress. The council representatives will be urging them to support legislation that would amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to place double-hulled tankers under the same double-escort requirement that already applies to single-hull tankers.

On September 24, Congressman Don Young was successful in adding the escort requirement into a House Coast Guard bill.

The council collaborated with the Prince William Sound Science Center, Cape St Elias Lightkeepers Association and the Coast Guard to place a new weather monitoring station in The Gulf of Alaska

The council purchased the station to help monitor conditions that could produce a weather phenomenon called "barrier jets." *Barrier jets* are very high winds formed when a low pressure storm system approaches a mountain range like the ones along the Gulf of Alaska coast.

Updated Peer Listening DVD training program now available

The council recently updated the award-winning video/DVD training course "Coping with Technological Disasters: Peer Listener Training." This training teaches peer-listening techniques that allow community members to counsel each other. Developed during the aftermath of the Exxon Valdez oil spill, this training is now being used to help victims of disasters such as Hurricane Katrina. The updated version is free and available now. If you would like a copy, please contact the council's Anchorage office, 907-277-7222, or toll-free: 800-478-7221.

For more information on the council and its work, contact:
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