



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

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News Release

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Citizens' council lauds handling of *Kodiak* oil tanker incident

The board of directors of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council voted unanimously on Friday to praise the crews of two Prince William Sound escort tugs that assisted a loaded oil tanker that lost power while leaving the Sound earlier this month.

The tugs *Aware* and *Tanerliq* took immediate action after a generator failure triggered an engine shutdown on the Exxon tanker *Kodiak* at Hinchinbrook Entrance early on the morning of Jan. 17. Hinchinbrook Entrance is the narrow channel where ships pass out of the Sound into the Gulf of Alaska.

In a resolution passed at its Anchorage board meeting, the council commended "the captain and crew of the Crowley tugs *Aware* and *Tanerliq* for the tremendous professionalism they displayed when faced with the mission of assisting the *Kodiak* in reduced visibility and adverse weather conditions."

Crowley Marine Services operates the escort tugs under contract to Alyeska Pipeline Service Co.

The council resolution also commended the crew of the *Kodiak* for their management of the crisis, as well as the personnel of Alyeska's Ship Escort/Response System for dispatching additional vessels to further assist the *Kodiak* if needed.

"The *Kodiak* assist is a reminder of the ever-present dangers of moving crude oil through the pristine environment of Prince William Sound," said Donna Schantz, the council's acting executive director. "It's why we are working so hard to get federal legislation guaranteeing that these tugs will never go away."

The text of the council resolution follows this news release.

The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council is an independent non-profit corporation whose mission is to promote environmentally safe

operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal and the oil tankers that use it. The council's work is guided by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and its contract with Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. The council's 18 member organizations are communities in the region affected by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, as well as aquaculture, commercial fishing, environmental, Native, recreation, and tourism groups.

Resolution 10-01

Recognizing the professionalism displayed by Crowley crews, the crew of the tanker *Kodiak*, and personnel of the Alyeska Ship Escort/Response Vessel System (SERVS) in responding after the *Kodiak* lost power during a transit of Prince William Sound

WHEREAS, during the early morning hours of January 17, 2010, the Exxon oil tanker *Kodiak* temporarily lost power while transiting the waters of Hinchinbrook Entrance;

WHEREAS, the captain and crew of the *Kodiak* acted immediately and professionally to manage the equipment failure aboard the vessel and to call in escort tugs for assistance;

WHEREAS, the captain and crew of the tugs *Aware* and *Tan'erliq* rendered immediate assistance to the tanker, with the tug *Aware* taking a towline to the bow of the tanker and the tug *Tan'erliq* tethered to the stern;

WHEREAS, SERVS mobilized additional response resources to assist the disabled tanker;

WHEREAS, the NOAA buoy station 46061 at Seal Rocks reported weather conditions at the time of the incident of wind speed 13.6 knots gusting to 17.5 knots and wave height at 10.5 feet

WHEREAS, the tanker *Kodiak* was assisted to safe anchorage at Knowles Head by the captain and crew of the *Aware*.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council hereby commends SERVS, the captain and crew of the *Kodiak*, and the captain and crew of the Crowley tugs *Aware* and *Tan'erliq* for the tremendous professionalism after the *Kodiak's* power loss in reduced visibility and adverse weather conditions.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council Board of Directors on the 22nd day of January, 2010.
