

**Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2024**

**INFORMATION ITEM**

**Sponsor:** Jeremy Robida and the OSPR Committee

**Project number and name or topic:** Regional Stakeholder Committee Task Force Update

1. **Description of agenda item:** This is an informational update for the Board on the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) Task Force established by the Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT) in August 2022. Staff updated the Board in January of 2023, as the Task Force process was starting up, and sharing concerns about proposed language. Now that the work of the RSC Task Force is close to completion, an update to the Board seems timely.

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** The Council has witnessed through tanker plan exercises how useful, valuable, and important the RSC engagement process can be and has long been a proponent and advocate for the use of the RSC process through different project initiatives. The Council developed comments on proposed amendments in 2016 to the RSC language the Alaska Unified Plan that included a considerable community outreach and education component. The Council also sponsored community workshops between 2013-2017, explaining how responses are managed and the RSC concept, and built a series of RSC tools for both industry and regulatory agency liaisons and RSC members that can be found on our website: <https://www.pwsrcac.org/rsc/>. Staff have also devoted a considerable amount of time to the RSC Task Force process since it was initiated in August 2022.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:**

| <u>Meeting</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Action</u>  |
|----------------|-------------|--|
| XCOM           | 12/18/12    | Authorized Executive Director to negotiate a contract with Nuka Research and Planning Group, up to \$27,000 in FY13, to facilitate project 7901 Incident Management for Regional Stakeholders.                           |
| XCOM           | 11/1/13     | Approved a draft letter dated November 1, 2013 titled “Alaska Regional Response Team (ARRT) Proposed Draft Amendment to the Alaska Unified Plan to Eliminate the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC)” for distribution. |
| Board          | 01/23/14    | Approved the report titled “ICS and Response Plan Basics for Regional Stakeholders RFP Number 7091.13.01” by Nuka Research & Planning Group, LLC, for distribution.  |
| Board          | 05/01/14    | Approved FY2015 budget which included funding for project 7901 Incident Management for Downstream Communities.   |
| Board          | 05/07/15    | Approved FY2016 budget which included funding for project 7901 Incident Management for Downstream Communities.   |
| Board          | 05/05/16    | Approved FY2017 budget which included funding for project 7901 Incident Management for Downstream Communities.   |
| Board          | 05/02/19    | Approved FY2020 budget which included funding for project 7901 Resources for the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) and Affected Communities.  |

## Update on Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC) Task Force 4-3

|       |          |  |
|-------|----------|--|
| Board | 05/20/20 | Approved FY2021 budget which included funding for project 7901 Resources for the Regional Stakeholder Committee (RSC).   |
| Board | 05/06/21 | Board accepts Web-Based Regional Stakeholder Committee Resources project, led by contractor Nuka Research and Planning Group, as having met the contractual terms set forth in the contract. |

4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** Although there were considerable concerns over initially suggested edits as the Tasks Force first began, now that the process nears completion, PWSRCAC staff is satisfied and supportive of the developed work products. Developed job aids are now generally in agreement with the current PWS area plan and the RSC process PWSRCAC has practiced in large scale exercises. It is important for there to be consistency in how this potential tool will be applied, and this material will be incorporated across all four regions/area plans throughout the state that include: 1) Arctic and Western Alaska; 2) Prince William Sound; 3) Alaska Inland; and 4) Southeast Alaska. The near finished work products (job aids) have also been expanded from what had previously been included in the Prince William Sound and Arctic and Western Alaska specific area plans.

5. **Committee Recommendation:** The OSPR Committee has been receiving updates on the RSC Task Force process. OSPR is satisfied with the progress of the RSC Task Force and products being developed.

It is anticipated that finalized RSC Task Force work products (RSC explanation language to be inserted into the different Area Plans, a job aid for Liaison Officers, and a job aid for RSC members) will be finished by early summer of 2024. These products will go to the ARRT Tri-Chairs for their review, to be written into all of the Alaska area plans, and moved onto the ADEC tools and references website where a variety of job aid resources already exist. The OSPR Committee will continue to receive updates as this process moves toward completion.

6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Monitoring the RSC Task Force falls under the Council's 7000 - Oil Spill Prevention & Response Operations Program, which is in the approved FY2024 budget and annual work plan.

### **7000 - Spill Response Operations Program**

As of March 27, 2024

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Original Budget         | \$4,250.00        |
| Revised Budget          | \$4,250.00        |
| Actual & Commitments    | \$1,997.90        |
| <b>Amount Remaining</b> | <b>\$2,252.10</b> |

7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** None, item is for information only.

8. **Attachments:** None.