



FACT SHEET:

What is the Issue?

On March 25, 2016, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and Alaska Regional Response Team proposed changes to the Unified Plan, which guides pollution and oil spill cleanup in Alaska. This change would replace the Regional Stakeholder Committee that has been used to protect your interests and get answers to your questions during a spill with two separate groups: Tribal and Local Government Group and Affected Stakeholders Group. The Regional Stakeholder Committee is the process and forum used to provide access and information for protection of public and tribal interests, to get answers to questions, and to convey local input and concerns to the Unified Command during a major oil spill incident. The Unified Command, made of federal, state, and responsible party on-scene coordinators (may also include a local on-scene coordinator), jointly makes the final decisions on the spill response.

When are Comments Due?

April 29, 2016

How does the Regional Stakeholder Committee currently protect my interests?

The Regional Stakeholder Committee process provides:

1. Access to information about how the spill will be cleaned up;
2. Answers to your questions;
3. Access to the Unified Command and Command Post to know what is happening during the response;
4. The opportunity for experts to represent your interests; and
5. A process for providing input directly to the Unified Command.

How do the proposed changes adversely impact my interests?

1. Decreased expert representation;
2. Decreased access to the Unified Command;
3. Decreased collaboration and cooperation amongst tribes, local governments, and concerned stakeholders;
4. Decreased access to information about how the spill will be cleaned up; and
5. Provides a less effective communication process to address your concerns.

Where Should I Send Comments?

Comments can be submitted electronically to: <http://alaskarrt.org/comment/Default.aspx>; by e-mail to decsparrplanning@alaska.gov; or by mail to: Jade Gamble, ADEC, 43335 Kalifornsky Beach Road, Suite 11, Soldotna, AK 99669.

Are there examples letters that I can use to draft my comments?

Yes. Please contact the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council, by contacting Lisa Matlock at 1-877-478-7221 or lisa.matlock@pwsrca.org to obtain a copy.

4/11/16