

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Seventeenth Coast Guard District

P. O. Box 25517
Juneau, AK 99802-5517
Staff Symbol: d
Phone: (907)463-2025
Fax: (907)463-2037

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1 MAR 2013

Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council
Attn: Mr. Mark Swanson, Executive Director
P. O. Box 3089
130 South Meals, Suite 202
Valdez, Alaska 99686

Dear Mr. Swanson:

After review of the recertification package submitted by the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (PWSRCAC) dated January 11, 2013, I certify the PWSRCAC as an alternative voluntary advisory group permitted under Subsection 5002(o) of the Oil Pollution Terminal and Oil Tanker Environmental Oversight and Monitoring Act of 1990. This recertification terminates February 28, 2014.

Under the guidelines established by the Coast Guard in 2002, this re-certification fell under the streamlined inspection process and as such only substantive changes were reported by your office and public comment was not sought by the Coast Guard.

While I recognize the Council's interest in activities external to Prince William Sound, I am concerned it may be seeking involvement in initiatives outside the scope and intent of OPA 90. Clearly, national and international developments could impact terminal or tanker operations in Prince William Sound, and, as a result, PWSRCAC appropriately has an inherent interest in monitoring the potential impacts. However, the Council's actual involvement in activities that neither pertain to tankers nor terminal facilities in Prince William Sound are outside the scope of OPA 90. I recommend you take measures to ensure the PWSRCAC's involvement in activities remains within the bounds described in OPA 90 and 33 USC 2732.

My staff and I look forward to continued work with you to maintain and improve safe and environmentally sound transportation of oil in Prince William Sound.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Ostebo", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

THOMAS P. OSTEBO
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard
Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District

Copy: Sector Anchorage
MSU Valdez
CGD17 (dl)