

The Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council Annual and Board of Directors meeting was held virtually on April 8th, 2022. Remote meetings continue as a precaution to protect the health and safety of CIRCAC Directors and staff.

Representatives from Hilcorp provided an update on the company's operations in Cook Inlet, noting that 2022 marks ten years for the company in Alaska. Lori Nelson, Hilcorp's Manager of Public Affairs briefed the board on the Middle Ground Shoals gas field. A natural gas line that was used to feed offshore platforms was found to be leaking in April of 2021. The line remains shut in as Hilcorp continues an internal review to develop long term plans for the Middle Shoals. A full replacement of the line is not planned for 2022. Todd Duke, General Manager of Compliance Services for Resolve Marine also provided an operational update and overview of their response capabilities for the board.

Other updates came from Graham Wood from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, detailing the department's plans for unit realignment that will add a Western Region for state regulators while separating Kodiak Island and Cook Inlet for management. Jonathan Schick from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources gave the board an update on preliminary natural gas exploration activities in the Susitna Valley and announced that work for potential geothermal permitting is beginning for St. Augustine Island.

CIRCAC Executive Director Michael Munger provided a report and update on the US Coast Guard Alternative Planning Compliance issue and recent federal legislative changes that he has been following in Washington D.C. He plans to continue his involvement working with Senator Sullivan's staff on the Senate's version of the legislation. The Council unanimously voiced support for his continued efforts.

Our next meeting is scheduled for September and its location will be announced at a later date.