



8 June 2017

Commander, 17th Coast Guard District  
709 W. 9<sup>th</sup> St  
Juneau, AK 99801  
Attn: Lt. Jonathon Dale  
Sent via email: Jonathon.dale@uscg.mil

Re: DOC NUMBER USCG-2017-0289 – Recertification of the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens' Advisory Council

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of the Oil Spill Recovery Institute (OSRI) and the Prince William Sound Science Center (PWSSC) and am writing to support and encourage recertification of the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (CIRCAC) as the alternative voluntary advisory group for Cook Inlet, in accordance with the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

CIRCAC has continued to succeed as an organization with broad representation from relevant communities. CIRCAC's meetings are well advertised and open to the public. CIRCAC is an excellent resource for understanding research behind oil related issues and are at the forefront of efforts to better map and make accessible information that would be needed during an oil spill through the Cook Inlet Response Tool ([portal.aos.org/cirt](http://portal.aos.org/cirt)).

Staff and board members of the RCAC are approachable, responsive, and collaborative in nature. They remain deeply committed to the organization's mission to promote the environmentally safe operation of oil and gas operations in Cook Inlet. I believe CIRCAC both meets and exceeds the requirements of OPA '90 with regard to citizen oversight of oil and gas operations in Cook Inlet. As such, I strongly support recertification of CIRCAC due to its record and ongoing commitment to safety in Cook Inlet. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Scott Pegau".

W. Scott Pegau  
Research Program Manager, OSRI  
Chief Operating Officer, PWSSC  
[wspgau@pwssc.org](mailto:wspgau@pwssc.org)