

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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SEP 14 2011

Mr. Michael Munger, Executive Director CIRCAC
8195 Kenai Spur Highway
P.O. Box 2029
Kenai, AK 99611

Dear Mr. Munger:

After review of the 2011 re-certification package submitted by the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (CIRCAC), I certify the CIRCAC 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 re-certification terminates August 31, 2012.

We received 15 letters commenting on the proposed action. No public meeting was requested, and none was held. Of the 15 letters received, 14 were in support of the CIRCAC application for recertification. These letters in support of the recertification consistently cited CIRCAC's broad representation of the respective community's interests, appropriate actions to keep the public informed, improvements to both spill response preparation and spill prevention, and oil spill industry monitoring efforts that combat complacency as intended by the Act. One comment recommended against recertification and expressed concern that CIRCAC did not represent the communities and interests of Cook Inlet and that the CIRCAC did not promote environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations. All comments were taken into consideration, together with the information provided with the CIRCAC 2011 application for recertification, and the totality of the comments and information provided establishes that the CIRCAC satisfies the requirements necessary to obtain recertification under the Act, 33 U.S.C. 2732 et seq.

My staff and I look forward to continued work with you on our common goal of improving the safe and environmentally sound transportation of oil in Cook Inlet and surrounding communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Ostebo", written over a blue ink stamp.

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

Copy: Sector Anchorage
CCD17 (dl)