

Department of Environmental Conservation

DIVISION OF SPILL PREVENTION AND RESPONSE Prevention, Preparedness & Response Program

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July 23, 2020

RADM Matthew T. Bell 17th Coast Guard District United States Coast Guard PO Box 25517 Juneau, AK. 99802-5517

Subject: Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council Recertification Application (Docket # 2020-0188)

Dear RADM Bell:

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (department) supports the recertification of the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (CIRCAC). In cooperation with industry and the regulating entities, CIRCAC continues to support the mission expressed in the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

The department partners with CIRCAC, industry and other government agencies to continuously seek improvements to spill prevention and response capabilities in Cook Inlet. An example of such partnership is the completion of the Cook Inlet Pipeline Infrastructure Assessment. This project spanned several years and stands as a shining example of collaboration between CIRCAC, the department, and industry. We value and rely on CIRCAC's review and expertise regarding oil discharge prevention and contingency plans, as well as their participation in oil spill response exercises and drills. They have proven themselves to be effective in strengthening our ability to prevent and respond to oil spills in Cook Inlet.

There is a continuing need for constructive problem solving and positive contribution of the CIRCAC and we support their recertification.

Sincerely

Graham Wood Program Manager

Electronic cc: Michael Munger, CIRCAC

Shaylon Cochrane, CIRCAC Denise Koch, SPAR Director Craig Ziolkowski, ADEC