

July 11, 2023

Rear Admiral Megan Dean
Commander 17th Coast Guard District
United States Coast Guard

Dear Admiral Dean:

As a former Sector Anchorage Commander (2009-2021), I am writing you to express my full support of the recertification of the Cook Inlet Regional Advisory Council (CIRCAC). Since its inception in 1990, CIRCAC has been a key organization for promoting environmental programs to prevent oil spills, enhance safety of both maritime transportation and oil facility operations and protect Cook Inlet's waters, shorelines, cultural, natural and wildlife resources.

CIRCAC excels in partnering with regulatory bodies, industry, and other non-governmental environmental interests to push the agenda of protecting the Cook Inlet area from oil spills while also ensuring the smart and effective use of the myriad of resources the Cook Inlet provides.

As an interested citizen, I have kept in touch with the happenings in the Cook Inlet and the workings of CIRCAC since I left Alaska in 2016. I have found that CIRCAC has continued to build on their accomplishments and important work that I witnessed in person as the Sector Commander and a private citizen in Alaska.

Cook Inlet and its surrounding communities benefit from having CIRCAC in their corner to assure that all agencies and industry are doing their best to protect the environment in the Inlet. CIRCAC has created an impressive set of guidelines, best practices and programs to continue to promote environmental protection, oil spill prevention and emergency response capability in the Cook Inlet. Through their cooperative partnering approach, CIRCAC has been able to earn the trust of regulators, industry and the local populace to ensure the continued safety and environmental protection of the Cook Inlet. The citizens of the Cook Inlet area are in expert hands with CIRCAC!

I urge you to recertify CIRCAC to continue to do the yeoman's work of leading the protection of the Cook Inlet.

Sincerely,



Jason Fosdick
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.)