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*Leadership to enhance, foster and promote economic development*

Rear Admiral Michael F. McAllister  
Commander – 17<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District  
United States Coast Guard  
709 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Juneau, AK 99801

**Attn: Lt. Jonathan Dale**  
**Docket Number: USCG-2017-0289**

Dear Admiral,


On behalf of the Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District, I would like to express our support for the recertification of the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (CIRCAC). Our mission is to serve the Kenai Peninsula Borough residents by enhancing their quality of life through responsible and sustainable regional economic and workforce development. It is important to our organization and the people we represent that economic development in the Kenai Peninsula is done in a manner that is protective of our natural and wildlife resources.

CIRCAC has been proactive in identifying risks and concrete recommendations to address them. Before the series of recent leaks in Cook Inlet, CIRCAC was already in the process of updating its 2000 subsea pipeline report and is now actively participating in scoping out a pipeline risk assessment with federal and state agency partners. CIRCAC also prompted the State to review policies and procedures in conducting oil spill response. Throughout the process, CIRCAC was heavily involved in monitoring and providing resources. They were also an active participant in the Unified Command for the Platform Anna spill providing local knowledge and expertise to influence the response. CIRCAC has also initiated a scholarship program to encourage the next generation of stewards committed to protecting and learning about Cook Inlet.

Since its inception, CIRCAC has formed partnerships and encouraged consensus decision-making. Through this process, CIRCAC brings stakeholders together to create environmental monitoring and oil spill prevention programs to promote safe production and transportation of oil in Cook Inlet.

We support the Cook Inlet RCAC's recertification and respectfully request the Coast Guard approve their 2017 application to continue their work on behalf of the communities throughout the Kenai Peninsula.

Respectfully,



Tim Dillon  
Executive Director



**Alaska Regional Development Organization (ARDOR)**  
The State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community  
and Economic Development certified KPEDD as an  
ARDOR in 1989.



**Economic Development District (EDD)**  
The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic  
Development Administration (EDA) recognized KPEDD  
as an Economic Development District in 1988.