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Leadership to enhance, foster and promote economic development

Rear Admiral Daniel B. Abel
Commander, 17th Coast Guard District
United States Coast Guard
c/o Docket Management Facility (M-30)
U.S. Department of Transportation
West Building Ground Floor
Room W12-140
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Re: USCG-2014-0414; Cook Inlet RCAC Recertification

Dear Admiral:

On behalf of Kenai Peninsula Economic Development District, I would like to express our support for the recertification of the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (Cook Inlet RCAC).

Our mission is to serve 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, and enhances our quality of life. With heightened interest in Cook Inlet exploration and development, it is more important than ever that an effective and respected mechanism be in place to represent Cook Inlet's citizens in monitoring and promoting environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations.

Cook Inlet RCAC has looked out for the interests of our diverse stakeholder groups and citizens. Their professional staff and volunteer board represent a necessary layer of oversight to ensure the long term interests in the region are well-represented and that the desired economic development in the region is done in a responsible and environmentally safe manner.

We support Cook Inlet RCAC's recertification and respectfully request the Coast Guard approve their 2014 application so that they can continue their important work on behalf of the communities throughout the Kenai Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Rick Roeske, 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.