



**TESORO**

Tesoro Companies, Inc.  
19100 Ridgewood Parkway  
San Antonio, TX 78259  
210 626 6000

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

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

Dear Admiral McAllister:

On behalf of Tesoro Maritime Company, I would like to express my support for the recertification of the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (Cook Inlet RCAC).

Tesoro's Kenai refinery, located 60 miles southwest of Anchorage on the Cook Inlet, produces gasoline, gasoline blend stocks, jet fuel, diesel fuel, heating oil, heavy fuel oils, propane and asphalt. We transport crude oil, refined products and blend stocks by double-hulled tankers and barges through Cook Inlet calling at Nikiski and Anchorage and by pipeline from the Kenai Peninsula in Cook Inlet to the Kenai refinery; we are a supporter and beneficiary of Cook Inlet RCAC's work.

Cook Inlet RCAC has achieved significant accomplishments in the areas of environmental monitoring, and oil spill prevention, response and preparedness, the result of a concerted effort to foster and develop partnerships with industry, local, state and federal governments and the citizens of Cook Inlet. The RCAC under Mike Munger's leadership recently executed his vision to create and form a Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee, a significant move in taking safety and environmental stewardship in the Cook Inlet to a new level. Under Mike's leadership he has brought together industry, state and local governments, and the community to work collaboratively to find solutions to problems and improve safety. Another example of the RCAC's leadership is the permanent stationing of a dedicated purpose built ice class docking assist tug in Cook Inlet stationed at Nikiski.

We consider the RCAC paramount to the success of highlighting and understanding the sensitive nature of this waterway and creating a balance between industry and the citizens to enhance stewardship of the region. Tesoro is honored to be a beneficiary of the research studies they have done in the coastal habitats and we value their input and welcome opportunities to work together with the Board of Directors, Committees and staff to share information that makes marine transportation safer in Cook Inlet.

We look forward to continuing this relationship and respectfully request the Coast Guard to approve the Cook Inlet RCAC's application for recertification.

Sincerely,

Captain Marc Bayer

Vice President, Marine  
Tesoro Maritime Company