



Rear Admiral Daniel B. Abel  
Commander, 17<sup>th</sup> 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 XTO Energy, I would like to express our support for the recertification of the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (Cook Inlet RCAC).

Since its inception under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, Cook Inlet RCAC has done a stellar job of fulfilling its mandates. We work closely with Cook Inlet RCAC's board of directors and staff, encourage and welcome their on-site visits, and regularly attend their Council meetings. We share their mission of promoting environmentally safe marine transportation and oil facility operations in the Cook Inlet and consider their partnership an important component to our operation's success in the Cook Inlet.

Cook Inlet RCAC has made significant contributions in oil spill prevention and response. Their Ice Forecasting Network of Cameras has undoubtedly done much to improve safer navigation during Cook Inlet's challenging winter months. As a named reviewer under state regulations, we value their expertise and input during oil discharge prevention and contingency plan review and welcome their participation and expertise during oil spill exercises and drills. As an organization, we are committed to transparency in our operations, and Cook Inlet RCAC shares that commitment making their information and data readily available, through their redesigned and frequently updated website, monthly electronic newsletters, presentations, personal contacts, and reports.

Among their many accomplishments, the Council was instrumental in securing funding for and launching the first comprehensive Cook Inlet Navigational Risk Assessment, a project that has been supported region-wide by industry and Cook Inlet citizens alike. As part of this assessment, which is now nearing completion, the Council is spearheading an area-wide harbor safety committee. Moreover, such pioneering projects as the Ice Forecasting Network of Cameras and the Alaska Coastal Mapping Program have improved our ability to prevent, plan for and respond to oil spills.

We look forward to supporting them in these efforts and in future projects, and respectfully request the Coast Guard approve Cook Inlet RCAC's application for recertification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott A. Griffith', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Scott A. Griffith, Production Superintendent  
XTO Energy Inc. ~ Alaska Operations