

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Seventeenth Coast Guard District

P. O. Box 25517
Juneau, AK 99802-5517
Staff Symbol: dpi
Phone: (907) 463-2823
Fax: (907) 463-2820

16451

10 OCT 2012

Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council
Attn: Mr. Michael Munger, Executive Director
910 Highland Avenue
Kenai, Alaska 99611-8033

Dear Mr. Munger:

After review of the certification package submitted by the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens Advisory Council (CIRCAC) dated September 4, 2012, I certify the CIRCAC as an alternative voluntary advisory group permitted under Subsection 5002(o) of the Oil Pollution Terminal and Oil Tanker Environmental Oversight and Monitoring Act of 1990. This re-certification terminates August 31, 2013.

Under the guidelines established by the Coast Guard in 2002, this re-certification fell under the streamlined inspection process and as such only substantive changes were reported by your office and public comment was not sought by the Coast Guard.

My staff and I look forward to continued work with you on our common goal of improving the safe and environmentally sound transportation of oil in Cook Inlet and surrounding communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Ostebo", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

THOMAS P. OSTEBO
Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard
Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District

Copy: Sector Anchorage
CGD17 (dl)

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

United States Coast Guard (USCG)

[USCG-2012-0892]

Cook Inlet Regional Citizen's Advisory Council (CIRCAC)

Charter Renewal.

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of Recertification.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has recertified the Cook Inlet Regional Citizen's Advisory Council (CIRCAC) as an alternative voluntary advisory group for Cook Inlet, Alaska. This certification allows the CIRCAC to monitor the activities of terminal facilities and crude oil tankers under the Cook Inlet Program established by statute.

DATES: This recertification is effective for the period from September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may request a copy of the recertification letter by writing to Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District (dpi), P.O. Box 25517, Juneau, Alaska 99801-5517; or by calling 907-463-2821.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LCDR Jason Boyle, Seventeenth Coast Guard District (dpi), by phone at (907)463-2821, email Jason.T.Boyle@uscg.mil or by mail at P.O. Box 25517, Juneau, Alaska 99802.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background and Purpose

As part of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, Congress passed the Oil Terminal and Oil Tanker Environmental Oversight and Monitoring Act of 1990 (the Act), 33 U.S.C. 2732, to foster a long-term partnership among industry, government, and local communities in overseeing compliance with environmental concerns in the operation of crude oil terminals and oil tankers.

On October 18, 1991, the President delegated his authority under 33 U.S.C 2732 (o) to the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating in Executive Order 12777, section 8(g) (see 56 FR 54757; October 22, 1991) for purposes of certifying advisory councils, or groups, subject to the Act. On March 3, 1992, the Secretary redelegated that authority to the Commandant of the USCG (see 57 FR 8582; March 11, 1992). The Commandant redelegated that authority to the Chief, Office of Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection (G-M) on March 19, 1992 (letter #5402).

On July 7, 1993, the USCG published a policy statement, 58 FR 36504, to clarify the factors that shall be considered in making the determination as to whether advisory councils, or groups, should be certified in accordance with the Act.

The Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety and Environmental Protection (G-M), redelegated recertification authority for advisory councils, or groups, to the Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District on February 26, 1999 (letter #16450).

On September 16, 2002, the USCG published a policy statement, 67 FR 58440, that changed the recertification

procedures such that applicants are required to provide the USCG with comprehensive information every three years (triennially). For each of the two years between the triennial application procedures, applicants submit a letter requesting recertification that includes a description of any substantive changes to the information provided at the previous triennial recertification. Further, public comment is not solicited prior to recertification during streamlined years, only during the triennial comprehensive review.

On September 14, 2011, the Coast Guard recertified the CIRCAC through August 31, 2012. Under the Oil Terminal and Oil Tanker Environmental Oversight Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2732), the Coast Guard may certify, on an annual basis, an alternative voluntary advisory group for Cook Inlet, Alaska. This advisory group monitors the activities of terminal facilities and crude oil tankers under the Cook Inlet Program established by Congress, 33 U.S.C. 2732 (b).

Recertification

By letter dated October 10, 2012, the Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard recertified that the CIRCAC qualifies as an alternative voluntary advisory group under 33 U.S.C. 2732(o). This recertification terminates on August 31, 2013.

Dated:



Thomas P. Ostebo

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard

Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District