

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. 17-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, ENDORSING THE PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RECERTIFICATION BY THE U.S. COAST GUARD

WHEREAS, the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (RCAC) is seeking recertification as the alternate voluntary advisory group for Prince William Sound as set forth in the Oil Pollution Act of 1990; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Valdez is familiar with specific projects which the Prince William Sound RCAC has been involved in and contributed to in a positive manner that benefit the residents of the City of Valdez; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William Sound RCAC oil spill response operations program monitors the operational readiness of Alyeska's Ship Escort Response Vessel System and the tanker companies, and through participation in major Prince William Sound oil spill drills, training and exercises assures that the council itself is prepared to respond to oil spills and other emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William Sound RCAC contributes to the prevention of oil spills and plans for spill response through the review of and input into the contingency oil spill prevention and response plans for the Valdez Marine Terminal and TAPS shippers; and

WHEREAS, Prince William Sound RCAC provides public outreach in multiple Exxon Valdez oil spill region communities on many issues, most recent topics include changes to U.S. ballast water regulations affecting Alaska's coastal tanker trade, including current issues regarding certification of ballast water treatment systems; the new Alaska Dispersant Use Plan; the marine services transition from Crowley Maritime to Edison Chouest Offshore; and suggested changes to the Regional Stakeholder Committee process and oil spill area planning for the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, this past year, Prince William Sound RCAC piloted a project, in conjunction with Alyeska/SERVS staff, to share the fishing vessel program's annual oil spill training with local citizens. PWSRCAC chartered a passenger vessel out of Seward which took over 90 local youth and residents to learn about SERV's oil spill training for local fishermen and mariners; and

WHEREAS, Prince William Sound RCAC continues to provide tremendous value towards improving the maritime firefighting risks for coastal Alaska by coordinating marine firefighting symposiums which leverage state funding to allow coastal communities to send their firefighters to training facilities at AVTEC in Seward; and

WHEREAS, Prince William Sound RCAC continues to advocate for increased frequency and increased technical rigor for piping and tank inspections for aging terminal piping and storage tanks and other associated crude oil infrastructure, essential for the continued safe spill-free operation of these assets into the future; and

WHEREAS, Prince William Sound RCAC works with industry and regulators to ensure response readiness, evaluate risks, and propose solutions with the primary goal to prevent complacency in the oil industry and government agencies so that it shall never become a factor in a future oil spill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, that:

The Valdez City Council hereby encourages the U.S. Coast Guard to recertify the Prince William Sound RCAC as the alternative voluntary advisory group as set forth in the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA, this 21st day of February, 2017.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

Ruth E. Knight, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk