



Regional Citizens' Advisory Council / "Citizens promoting environmentally safe operation of the Alyeska terminal and associated tankers."

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**MEMBERS**

**Resolution 13-02**

**Amendments to federal Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and OPA 90 that would substantially improve oil spill prevention and response in Prince William Sound, Alaska and the rest of the EVOS region as well as the remainder of the United States**

- Alaska State Chamber of Commerce
- Alaska Wilderness Recreation & Tourism Association
- Chugach Alaska Corporation
- City of Cordova
- City of Homer
- City of Kodiak
- City of Seldovia
- City of Seward
- City of Valdez
- City of Whittier
- Community of Chenega Bay
- Community of Tatitlek
- Cordova District Fishermen United
- Kenai Peninsula Borough
- Kodiak Island Borough
- Kodiak Village Mayors Association
- Oil Spill Region Environmental Coalition
- Port Graham Corporation
- Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corporation

**WHEREAS**, current funding for oil spill *prevention* measures nationwide is insufficient as evidenced by the enormous cost of injury and damages to terrestrial and marine habitats for fish and wildlife, the environment, and to people and their livelihoods from oil spills in Prince William Sound, Alaska and the rest of the Exxon Valdez oil spill region and the remainder of the United States;

**WHEREAS**, the federal Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF) currently collects 8 cents/barrel on oil shipments, that contribute approximately \$500 million/year into the Fund (less than .1% of the current price of oil);

**WHEREAS**, the current level of OSLTF funding is not adequate to fund the need for more robust oil spill prevention measures that can markedly assist in reducing the likelihood of future seriously damaging oil spills in Alaska and elsewhere in the U.S.;

**WHEREAS**, cargo and other commercial ships which sail into and out of our nation's harbors, including those in Prince William Sound, Alaska and in the Exxon Valdez oil spill region, at a rate far higher than oil tankers and are covered by the Fund but currently do not contribute any funding to the Fund;

**WHEREAS**, the Fund is authorized for use to pay for oil spill prevention measures, but is currently used almost exclusively for spill response and removal costs;

**WHEREAS**, current oil spill liability limits under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) remain too low to pay for effective and expected oil spill response activities, or act as an effective deterrent to future oil spills;

**WHEREAS**, The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council is an independent non-profit corporation whose statutory mission is the promote environmentally safe operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal and associated tankers, representing communities in the region affected by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, as well as commercial fishing, aquaculture, Alaska Native, recreation, tourism and environmental organizations;

**WHEREAS**, the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council has, by virtue of its experience over the past 22 years of working with industry and government to help ensure that oil can continue to be stored at the Valdez Marine Terminal, loaded onto tankers, and transported safely through the waters of Prince William Sound to market for national security and economic benefit to our nation without another major oil spill, seen first-hand the acute need for and benefits from oil spill *prevention* measures;

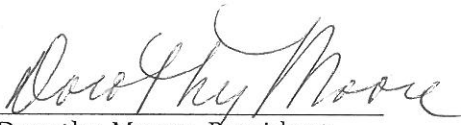
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council Board of Directors expresses its support of the following

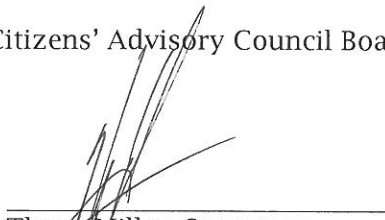
improvements to the OSLTF that would assist in preventing oil spills in Prince William Sound and the Exxon Valdez oil spill region as well as the rest of the nation:

1. Increase the per barrel fee on petroleum collected at the refinery that is contributed into the OSLTF;
2. Require that all cargo and other commercial ships using U.S. ports contribute to the OSLTF;
3. Clarify and facilitate use of the OSLTF for oil spill *prevention* measures;
4. Revise oil spill liability limitations in OPA 90 so as to more equitably re-assign liability *from the public* to those who are utilizing the waterways of the U. S. for commerce;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be provided to the Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, the shipping industry serving Alaska, all of the communities and organizations that comprise the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council encompassing the entire *Exxon Valdez* oil spill region, and the Members of Alaska's Delegation to the U.S. Congress for their consideration and potential action.

**APPROVED** by the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council Board of Directors on the 26 day of March, 2013

  
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Dorothy Moore, President

  
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Thane Miller, Secretary