

Introduced by: Cooper
Date: 02/14/17
Action: Adopted
Vote: 8 Yes, 1 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION 2017-017**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RECERTIFICATION OF THE PRINCE
WILLIAM SOUND REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough was adversely impacted by the Exxon Valdez oil spill in 1989; and

WHEREAS, the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council ("PWSRCAC") was established after the Exxon Valdez oil spill and has worked diligently since then to fulfill its mission: citizens promoting environmentally safe operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal and the oil tankers that use it; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough continues to have a stake in the safety of tankers carrying oil from the Valdez Marine Terminal; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC works with industry and regulators to ensure response readiness, evaluate risks, and propose solutions; and

WHEREAS, the PWSRCAC represents communities throughout the impact area, including the Kenai Peninsula Borough; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC's efforts to identify and advocate for the newest safety and capability standards for the tug escorts and other vessels associated with preventing or responding to oil tanker accidents, are exemplary, timely, and merit the strongest consideration for implementation by both industry and cognizant regulatory agencies; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC conducts independent scientific work addressing environmental issues related to the Valdez Marine Terminal (VMT) and associated tankers, such as a study with NOAA in 2015 to examine the delayed effects of the Exxon Valdez oil spill on long-term fish survival which showed that embryonic salmon and herring exposed to very low levels of crude oil can develop hidden heart defects that compromise their later survival, indicating that the spill may have had much greater impacts on spawning fish than previously recognized; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC continues its Long Term Environmental Monitoring Program ("LTEMP"), initiated in 1993 and supports citizen-based monitoring efforts in its region, particularly for the European green crab and invasive tunicates; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC devotes considerable effort to monitoring drills, exercises, and training events, as well as to the responses to actual incidents, which fortunately are relatively rare in Prince William Sound; and

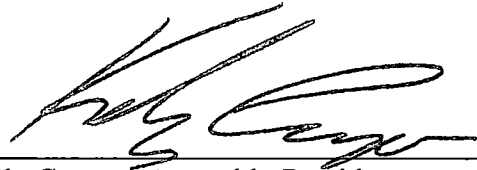
WHEREAS, PWSRCAC has continued to provide and support many other valuable projects to fulfill its mission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That the Kenai Peninsula Borough assembly supports the recertification of the Prince William Sound Citizens' Regional Advisory Council.

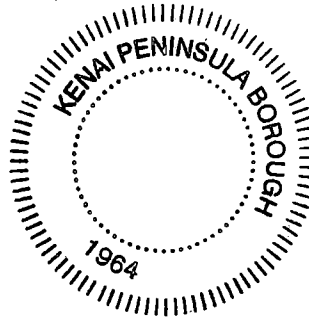
SECTION 2. That this resolution takes effect immediately upon its adoption and copies shall be sent to Lt. Patrick Grizzle of the US Coast Guard and the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 14TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2017.



Kelly Cooper, Assembly President

ATTEST:


John Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk

Yes: Bagley, Dunne, Fischer, Hibbert, Holmdahl, Ogle, Schaefer, Cooper
No: Welles
Absent: None