



September 14, 2018

RE: Changes to Alaska Government Plans and Necessary Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan Amendments

Dear Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plan Holder:

In an effort to be better prepared in the event of an oil spill or hazardous materials release in the State of Alaska, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the United States Coast Guard (USCG) have reformatted our government contingency plans to be more consistent with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (National Contingency Plan) framework. Historically, state and federal agencies operated under the Alaska Federal/State Preparedness Plan for Response to Oil and Hazardous Substance Discharges/Releases (Unified Plan) and 10 geographic subarea contingency plans.

Effective September 14, 2018, those plans are replaced by the single statewide **Alaska Regional Contingency Plan** and four **Area Contingency Plans**. The four new Area Contingency Plans combine several of the previous subareas and include all of the information previously housed in those subarea plans. The content in the government plans has been repackaged into the new plan structure, but there is no new or removed content as a result of this revision. Your operational and planning area may extend into more than one Area Plan. More information about this change, including a map of the new Areas and the newly adopted regional and area contingency plans, is available: <https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/contingency-plans/response-plans/regional-area-planning/> (or <http://alaska.gov/go/7EKN>)

Many industry Oil Discharge Prevention and Contingency Plans (ODPCP) reference sections of the subarea plans. All ODPCP references to the superseded Unified Plan and applicable subarea plan(s) must be realigned with the Alaska Regional Contingency Plan and appropriate Area Contingency Plan(s). It is incumbent on each ODPCP holder to update references or citations as necessary given the promulgation of the new government contingency plans. ADEC recommends utilizing the table of contents in the Regional Contingency Plan and the appropriate Area Contingency Plan(s), which are formatted with electronic bookmarks to identify the appropriate new section(s) for reference.

ADEC has established the following provisions to facilitate response readiness and regulated facility compliance until completion of facility plan review and amendment:

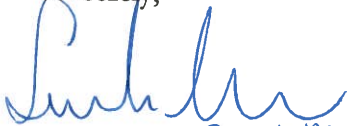
1. ODPCP amendment applications must be submitted to the department before August 14, 2019. If the ODPCP is due for a renewal or will be undergoing any other amendments prior to August 2019 this revision should be incorporated in that submittal.

2. ADEC shall maintain access to the superseded Unified Plan and subarea contingency plans until August 2019 to assure access to response information during this transition period. The superseded plans are available for reference here: <https://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/contingency-plans/response-plans/> (or <http://alaska.gov/go/4B5R>)
3. Amendment applications that solely address alignment of cross-references or citation from the superseded Unified Plan and subarea plan(s) to the current Alaska Regional Contingency Plan and applicable Area Contingency Plan(s) shall be treated as a minor plan amendment. These edits must not change any commitment or resource obligation within the facility ODPCP.

The four new Area Contingency Plans will be updated and maintained through Area Committees, co-chaired by the State On-Scene Coordinator(s) (ADEC) and the Federal On-Scene Coordinator (USCG or EPA) for the area. The Area Committees welcome and encourage the active participation of industry in the government planning process. Information about scheduled Area Committee meetings is available here: <https://alaskarrt.org/>.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your plan reviewer. You can also contact our planning staff via decsparrplanning@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,



Sarah Moore for

Graham Wood
Program Manager
Prevention, Preparedness and Response Program