

Good Friday afternoon everyone -

Here is the news for Region 3 (and beyond) for this week. *PLEASE NOTE: None of this is verified or fact checked. If you have a problem with any of this information, please reply to the whole group and state your reasoning; hopefully prompting an entertaining discussion. If you have better or more accurate information, please let me know and I will update the group.*

Also, PLEASE let me know if there is other information to be passed to the group – this includes meetings, workshops, training opportunities etc. Feel free to share this email with others.

As always, if you want the inbox deluge to end, just drop me an email stating that.

Debbie

Region 3 News

[Oil spill suspends loadings at Vopak LA terminal](#)

Argus Media

New York, 1 April (Argus) — An **oil spill** at the Vopak terminal in Los Angeles has halted loading operations there, sources said. Thursday morning the ...

[Oil pipeline opponents say local bans will derail project](#)

Philly.com

Environmental groups and elected officials have expressed concern in recent years about the potential for a catastrophic **oil spill** involving barges that ...

[Poor policy-making could cripple development of gas in US, speakers say](#)

The US could hamstring its energy security and deny economic and geopolitical opportunities with wrong-headed policies that restrict natural gas development, according to speakers at a Hudson Institute forum. Several spoke of the need for more pipelines to get gas to markets, while former Sen. George Allen, R-Va., criticized the cancellation of offshore lease sales along the southern Atlantic coastline. "This administration has issued a slew of regulations intended to stifle gas use," Allen said.

[Oil & Gas Journal](#) (4/7)

News for U.S. and Canada

[2016 - National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program \(PREP\) Guidelines finalized and available \(attached\).](#)

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY Coast Guard [USCG-2011-1178] National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP) Guidelines AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS. ACTION: Notice of availability of updated PREP Guidelines. SUMMARY: The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) announces that the updated 2016 PREP Guidelines have been finalized and are now publicly available. The USCG is publishing this notice on behalf of the National Scheduling Coordination Committee (NSCC), which has been renamed and henceforth will be known as the PREP Compliance, Coordination, and Consistency Committee (PREP 4C). The PREP 4C is comprised of the same membership as was the NSCC, and includes representatives from the USCG under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS); the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) under the Department of

Transportation (DOT); and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) under the Department of the Interior (DOI). Copy of 2016 NPREP guidelines attached to this email.

The new 2016 OSRO Guidelines have been approved. Please see a copy of the MSIB that details the new guidelines below. In the future we will update the RRI webpage to have the new Guidelines but until then please refer to the below message on how to find the Guidelines.

The purpose of this Bulletin is to announce the update to the Oil Spill Removal Organization (OSRO) Guidelines. The product of a concerted and collaborative effort, the Office of Marine Environmental Response Policy (CG-MER), the National Strike Force Coordination Center (NSFCC), and private/public sector subject matter experts updated these guidelines to address current risks posed by heavy and Group V oils while keeping an eye open for changes on the horizon. The 2016 OSRO Guidelines were signed and published on March 31, 2016.

An integral component of the Coast Guard's marine environmental response mission, updates within the OSRO Guidelines include:

- New annual review requirements for the OSRO Guidelines to be conducted by the NSFCC and CG-MER. This review will take place at the beginning of each calendar year.
- Revised and edited portions of each classification program to either clarify previous language, add context, or remove redundant language.
- Created a new classification in the OSRO Guidelines: Nonfloating Oils classification. The Nonfloating Oil classification meets the regulatory requirements of Group V oils in accordance with the criteria set forth by 33 CFR § 154.1047 and 33 CFR § 155.1052 and the inherent risk of other heavy oil types that may submerge or sink.
- Created the Nonfloating Oil application and procedures to meticulously and qualitatively assess Nonfloating Oil classifications. The application contains pertinent information for owners and operators to appropriately determine what Nonfloating Oil classified OSROs would be best suited for their operations.

Effective on November 30, 2016, all previous Group V OSRO 'listings' will be removed from the Response Resource Inventory. Furthermore, all Facility and Vessel response plan holders who may handle, store, or transport Group V oils shall only list Nonfloating Oil classified OSROs or provide the required information in accordance with the regulatory Group V Response Plan Development and Evaluation Criteria. OSROs desiring to apply for the Nonfloating Oil classification can do so now and refer to Chapter 6 in the Guidelines.

OSRO Guidelines may be accessed at: Homeport - 2016 OSRO Guidelines and input OSRO Guidelines into the search engine. Or use the following path – Environmental – Vessel Response Plan Program – What's New? Any questions regarding this update may be directed to CG-MER's point of contact, LT Brandon Aten at Brandon.J.Aten@uscg.mil or 202-372-2248.

[US, Canadian officials balance methane regulations, industry support](#)

Environmental officials from Canada and the US touted their countries' collaboration on methane regulations in a joint appearance Thursday, though Canada's environment minister struck a cautious note about protecting energy industries. As Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy praised the agreement, Environment Minister Catherine McKenna said new rules must not cause division in Canada. "We can't have everyone in the oil sector lose jobs," McKenna said.

[The Examiner \(Washington, D.C.\)](#) (4/7)

[TransCanada's Keystone Pipeline Shut Down After Landowner Notices Oil Spill](#)

Huffington Post – 4/5/16

TransCanada said Monday it has shut down its Keystone pipeline because of an oil spill in South Dakota, drawing fresh criticism about the risks pipelines pose.

[Report raises alarm over Canada's aging coast guard fleet](#)

CSCNews – 4/5/16

A report done for Transport Canada and quietly tabled in the House of Commons paints a grim portrait of the country's coast guard fleet, saying it is understaffed, desperately in need of new ships and without political support.

[Exxon pays \\$10.7 million for N.Y. pollution cleanups](#)

Albany Times Union

Oil giant Exxon Mobil has paid the largest single settlement ever into a four-decade-old state fund that cleans up **oil** and petroleum **spills**.

[EPA nominates Gold King Mine area for Superfund list following 2015's spill](#)

9NEWS.com

The EPA's Superfund cleanup program targets "some of the nation's most contaminated land, ... responding to environmental emergencies, **oil spills** ...

[Keystone Pipeline Shut Down after Possible South Dakota Oil Spill](#)

WDIO-TV

TransCanada says it has shut down the Keystone pipeline after a possible **oil spill** in South Dakota. The company said on Twitter

[Keystone pipeline springs leak in South Dakota](#)

KCCI Des Moines

NEW YORK (CNNMoney) —A key section of the Keystone pipeline has been shut down due to an **oil spill** in South Dakota, TransCanada said on ...

[House - hearing on maritime transportation safety](#)

Bryant Maritime Newsletter – 4/5/16

On 14 April, the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation of the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure will conduct a [hearing](#) entitled "Maritime Transportation Safety and Stewardship Programs". [see:

<http://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=400008>].

[Oil spill tests on ice prove Arctic quests risky](#)

GMA News Online – 4/4/16

Luckily, this is just a test: as the world's superpowers eye the lucrative Arctic region with growing interest, unprecedented oil spill clean-up tests in icy Finnish conditions reveal just how hazardous and challenging an accident in the Arctic's pristine sea ice could be.

[USCG - OSRO guidelines update](#)

Bryant Maritime Newsletter – 4/3/16

The US Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin announcing the updating of the Oil Spill Removal Organization (OSRO) Guidelines. The MSIB focuses on planned changes with regard to responses to spills of heavy and Group V (non-floating) oils. [MSIB 07-16](#) [located at http://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/007_16_4-1-2016.pdf].

[No oil drilling, no testing offshore SC](#)

Charleston Post Courier

Conservationists, recognizing the tremendous cost an **oil spill** could have on marine life, are opposed to offshore drilling. And even the federal Bureau ...

USA: PHMSA Publishes Final Rule on "Reverse Logistics"

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-31/html/2016-07199.htm> (text) or

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-03-31/pdf/2016-07199.pdf> (pdf)

Hazardous Materials: Reverse Logistics (RRR)

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In this final rule, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is adopting regulatory amendments applicable to the reverse logistics shipments of certain hazardous materials by highway transportation. This final rule revises the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) to include a definition of "reverse logistics" and provides appropriate provisions for hazardous materials within the scope of this definition. This final rule also expands a previously existing exception for return shipments of used automobile batteries transported between a retail facility and a recycling center. The PHMSA incorporated recommendations from petitions for rulemaking and public comment into this rulemaking. DATES: Effective: March 31, 2016.

International News

[ITOPF has just published its annual handbook for 2016/17](#)

The ITOPF Handbook contains a wealth of valuable information and guidance for those likely to be involved in spills of oil and chemicals from ships. Updated annually, it features information on ITOPF's technical and information services, oil spill statistics, the fate and effects of marine oil spills, clean-up techniques, and compensation. Hard copies of the Handbook are currently being mailed to our Members and contacts. Individual copies are available to others on request. The Handbook is also available as a [PDF](#) to download from our website.

Featured Topic: Oil by Rail

[KCRA](#)

[Valero crude oil gets another shot at NorCal railways](#)

Apr. 5

Crude oil traveling through Northern California is getting another chance of becoming a reality as an oil company offers a new proposal to the Benicia City Council.

Other News

IOSC 2017 Call for Papers & Posters - Open Until May 20, 2016

The International Oil Spill Conference (IOSC) is seeking thematically related papers and posters for its next convening in Long Beach, CA on May 15-18, 2017. The paper and poster presentations are the backbone of the IOSC's technical program and contribute to the vast canon of oil pollution knowledge shared between government, industry, and academia.

Invited authors present their respective papers or posters during speaker platform or interactive sessions. In addition, authors will have their work published in our online IOSC Proceedings - an impressive repository of more than 3,000 papers and articles that have been presented in the IOSC since 1969. [View the Call for Papers](#) [General Manuscript Guidelines for Authors](#); [Common Questions](#); [Abstract Submission Site](#)

Deepwater Horizon Updates

[US judge OKs \\$20B settlement from 2010 BP oil spill](#)

AP – 4/4/16

A federal judge in New Orleans granted final approval Monday to an estimated \$20 billion settlement over the 2010 BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, resolving years of litigation over the worst offshore spill in the nation's history.

[Deepwater Horizon Trustees Settle with BP for Natural Resource Injuries to the Gulf of Mexico](#)

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department - Texas.gov

New Orleans, LA (April 4, 2016) — The **Deepwater Horizon** oil spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees (Trustees) have settled with BP ...

[Diving In: Marine Scientist Takes On Pollution, Policy, and Public Health](#)

Patch.com

Susan Shaw will explain the far-reaching effects of the Gulf of Mexico oil slick after the **Deepwater Horizon** oil rig explosion in 2010.