

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



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## MEMORANDUM



ORIGINAL



16600  
10 May 10

From: *J. E. Hanzalik*  
J. E. Hanzalik CAPT  
CGD EIGHT (drm)

Reply to: Mr. Bill Goetzee, USCG  
Attn of: 504-671-2234

To: RRT VI CONSENSUS NETWORK PARTICIPANTS

Subj: REGION VI RRT INCIDENT SPECIFIC REQUEST NOTIFICATION THAT SUB-SEA DISPERSANT APPLICATION TEST #3 COMMENCED

1. A request for a 7<sup>th</sup> overall Incident Specific convening of the RRT VI Consensus trustees was made on behalf of RADM Mary Landry, the USCG FOSC for the on-going oil spill associated with the TRANS-OCEAN DEEP WATER HORIZON incident that began on 20 APR 2010, where a Mobile Off-Shore Drilling Unit (MODU) located approximately 45-miles SE of Venice, Louisiana in the Gulf of Mexico suffered an uncontrolled blow-out, explosion, and subsequent sinking. The severed riser continues to expel crude oil from the sea floor at a rate of approx 5000 BBls per day.

2. The purpose of this call to essentially make an immediate notification to the consensus RRT VI consensus trustee agencies partners that the third Sub-Sea Test of dispersant plume injection application had commenced at 0500L on Monday 10 May 2010 in accordance with the final agreed-upon monitoring, operations, and shut-down protocols agreed upon by the unified command. The following trustees, RRT VI member agency representatives, consensus network participants, were present on the Incident Specific Telephone conference that began at 0900L Central Time, Monday 10 May 2010, but not limited to the following list:

CAPT James Hanzalik, USCG (Region VI Co-Chair)  
Mr. Craig Carroll, EPA - Region VI Alternate Co-Chair  
Mr. Steve Mason, EPA - RRT VI Coordinator  
Mr. Charlie Henry, DOC - NOAA SSC  
Ms. Kate Clarke, DOC - NOAA SSC  
Dr. Stephen Spencer, DOI (Designated Primary Trustee Rep)  
Ms. Karolien Debuscherre, Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator Office (LOSCO)  
Mr. Dwight Bradshaw, - Louisiana DEQ  
Mr. Bill Goetzee, USCG, RRT VI Coordinator

3. Ms. Kate Clark of NOAA provided a detailed overview of agreed upon procedures, monitoring protocols, and shut down protocols. The test would proceed at a rate of application of approximately 10 gallons per minute COREXIT 9500 injected via an infuser quill to the crude oil plume discharging from the sea floor main riser. Water samples would be taken by the R/V BROOKS MCCALL. A brief-out of test results was expected to be available sometime soon after the conclusion of the test set to cease at 0500L Tuesday 11 May 2010, yet reports of data

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would have a turn-around time of 24-hrs following a potential 24-hr sample analysis time at the lab, therefore data analysis and reporting would be at least two days to process. No further sub-sea test or operational use of the dispersant injection procedure would take place without further RRT concurrence. Aerial dispersant application would still be allowed to proceed throughout the day (as weather conditions allow) with an aerial dispersant exclusion zone in place at a minimum distance of three miles to either side, and 15 Nautical miles down wind of the surface location directly above the concurrently running sub-sea dispersant injection test.

4. No further questions or concerns were presented by the consensus trustee reps. It was noted that this test is set for a 0500L 10 MAY – 0500L 11 MAY time frame at the approximate injection rate of 10 gallons per minute. The test is based on time limitations, and not a volume limitation. There was, however, at least one test interruption for personnel safety concerns, due to Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) meters being "pegged" at the surface monitors on the R/V.

5. If a net environmental benefit is indicated as the outcome of this third test, a further RRT convene of the consensus trustees would be held to determine if a continued operational use of this dispersant injection procedure would be approved as part of an overall adaptive management strategy.

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