

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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MEMORANDUM

16452

From: LCDR C. J. Graham
Executive Director, Interagency Coordinating
Committee on Oil Pollution Research

To: Members, Interagency Coordinating Committee on Oil Pollution Research (ICCOPR)

Subj: FY 2021 FIRST QUARTER ICCOPR MEETING MINUTES BUSINESS SESSION –
DAY 1

General: ICCOPR members and member agency representatives met via Microsoft Teams on March 23, 2021. LCDR Cliff Graham (USCG) called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and it continued until 3:00 pm. LCDR Graham (USCG) reviewed the agenda (Enclosure 1). Representatives of ICCOPR agencies that were in attendance via phone and/or video were:

CAPT Ricardo Alonso, ICCOPR Chair, USCG
Mr. Bill Vocke, Acting ICCOPR Vice Chair, BSEE
Eric Miller, BSEE
Kristi McKinney, BSEE
Dr. Gina Coelho, BSEE
LCDR Cliff Graham, Acting ICCOPR Executive Director, USCG
Mr. Alex Balsley, USCG
Mr. Marion Lewandowski, USCG
Dr. Benedette Adewale, USCG
Mr. John Tarpley, NOAA
Mr. Jordan Stout, NOAA
Dr. Lisa DiPinto, NOAA
Dr. Robyn Conmy, EPA
Mr. Greg Wilson, EPA
Ms. Vanessa Prinicpe, EPA
Ms. Kiara Lech, EPA
Mr. Carlos Cedeno, USN SUPSALV
Dr. Walter Johnson, BOEM
Dr. Zhen Li, BOEM
Mr. Barry Forsythe, USFWS
Mr. Robert Smith, PHMSA
Ms. Jo Ellen Hinck, USGS

Welcome and ICCOPR Opening Remarks

- a. CAPT Ricardo Alonso (USCG) and Bill Vocke (BSEE) opened the meeting and welcomed both ICCOPR members and guests.
- CAPT Alonso expressed his gratitude towards UNH CRRC and R&T Plan Steering Committee's efforts and work completed thus far on the development of the updated R&T plan. He provided a short brief on the OPA 90/ Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2020 (CGAA) changes, and that work is being conducted to address the 180 day requirement to submit the R&T plan to Congress. Additionally, he provided the following CG-MER updates; SONS ESC 2020 after action report is completed, the SONS 2022 planning meeting kicked off last week to be held in conjunction with NLE Cascadia Rising, and upcoming virtual IOSC meeting will be held 10-14 May 2021.
 - Mr. Vocke welcomed everyone, and acknowledged new agency attendees joining the ICCOPR meetings. He announced that Dr. Hudson is currently detailed to another position and he will be acting for the time being. The R&T Plan is moving along very well and running much smoother than in previous years. BSEE looks forward to completing the plan by the end of the year.

General Updates/Announcements

- a. LCDR Graham (USCG) provided general updates to ICCOPR on the following topics:
- ICCOPR R&T Plan is coming along and on schedule. Federal SME standing research area (SRA) evaluations, public data call, and upcoming public listening sessions are complete. Draft chapters are now being released and edited by ICCOPR R&T Plan Steering Committee. LCDR Graham gave updates on current SRA's being evaluated.
 - USGS Membership has been voted on and approved by ICCOPR Membership. Membership package is being finalized and with USCG Commandant for signature.
 - Request for agencies to identify steering committee members to assist with development of the Biennial Report to Congress. The report will begin this spring.

ICCOPR Agency Representatives provided R&D updates:

- USCG: Alex Balsley – USCG RDC current research portfolio and current status.
- NOAA: John Tarpley, Dr. Lisa DiPinto, Jordan Stout – Staffing updates, upcoming training, project updates on CA MPRI, NASA ROSES, USCG RDC collaboration.
- BSEE: Bill Vocke, Ms. Kristi McKinney – Staffing updates, Dr. Coelho is now covering the chemical treatments research portfolio, Dr. Tuttle will be presenting during guest session, presentation on TOST project 1128.
- BOEM: Dr. Zhen Li – provided updates on assignment of BOEM's new Director, new Executive Order 14008, to review oil and gas program, and the Industry Study Program 2022.
- PHMSA: Robert Smith – Currently soliciting for the academic research agenda, studies will involve strain capacity in pipelines, and ground movement's impacts for modeling.
- EPA: Robyn Conmy – Provided updates on EPA Staffing, the Toxicity and MPRI programs, updates on EPPM PAME project, invitation for Norwegian Coastal Administration (NCA) to join for future meeting, updates to MPRI projects, and collaborative project with WHOI on photo oxidation technology.

- USGS: Jo Ellen Hinck – Provided an announcement that mapping models are coming available for data collection using UAS (presented at OSPR), time of travel tool coming available for oil drift simulation (beta testing), and an upcoming project to present at the guest session in June.

BSEE Review of OPA 90 Title VII 2020 Updates:

- a. Bill Vocke provided a presentation on changes and key highlights from the Elijah E. Cummings CGAA of 2020 that was passed January 1, 2021 (H.R. 6395). ICCOPR is working to address provisions that include a quarterly meeting requirement (currently optional), change to vice chair membership, agency memberships, and in-kind contributions. Most importantly, the Act requires submittal of a Research & Technology Plan within six months to be reviewed by NAS and subsequent updated plans on later than every 10 years thereafter. LCDR Graham described an option to submit the current FY2015-2021 R&T Plan within the 180 days requirement and have NAS provide comments on it while the FY2022-2027 plan development continues. There were no objections to that approach.
- b. Some of these changes will require an update to the ICCOPR Charter. Anyone interested in being part of the revision process should contact LCDR Graham.

Closing Comments and Meeting Adjournment:

- a. CAPT Alonso (USCG) and Bill Vocke thanked ICCOPR representatives for participating in the meeting. They conveyed their appreciation for the dedication to research, and are impressed on the wide array of oil spill research topics being developed throughout ICCOPR.
- b. The second quarter Guest Session will be held tomorrow, 24 March. The ICCOPR third quarter meeting is scheduled for mid-June, 2021. The format will likely be virtual due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

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Enclosures: (1) Meeting Agenda
(2) Master Presentation Slide Deck (kept internal to ICCOPR Membership)