



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

10-10

Thur, April, 28, 2010

Ensuring Availability of Spill Removal Capabilities

As response resources continue to be deployed to the eastern Gulf of Mexico in support of the Mississippi Canyon 252 oil spill response, the Captain of the Port (COTP) encourages all vessel and facility response plan holders to review their plans and verify the capabilities of their OSROs to ensure that Average Most Probable Discharge (AMPD), Maximum Most Probable Discharge (MMPD), and Worst Case Discharge (WCD) equipment is available as required.

If deemed necessary, plan holders may take action to replace or backfill response resources by temporarily updating their CG approved Facility Response Plan (FRP) or Vessel Response Plans (VRP) in accordance with Navigation and Inspection Circular (NVIC) 01-07, *Guidance on Vessel and Facility Response Plans in Relation to OSRO Resource Movements During Significant Pollution Events*.

For FRP holders, temporary revision requests may be submitted to the COTP showing, by contract or other approved means, that appropriate resources are available to respond to an oil spill (AMPD, MMPD or WCD). COTPs will expedite FRP reviews on an immediate basis.

VRP holders do not need CG approval to change their AMPD OSRO (33 CFR 155.1070(c)(5)) provided that they have been ensured available by contract or other approved means. However for MMPD/WCD, temporary VRP updates for Port Specific Annex changes must be sent to USCG Commandant (Command Center) who will expedite reviews on an immediate basis. In exceptional circumstances, a plan holder may also request a temporary exemption from specific VRP if warranted under 33 CFR § 154.108 or § 155.130.

In accordance with 33 CFR 155.1050(e)(4), a plan holder must notify the cognizant COTP whenever MMPD response resources are not capable of meeting the planned arrival times.

Marine Safety Unit Port Arthur continues to monitor this situation and will keep the port community up to date of any changes through the Port Coordination Team (PCT), Area Committee and/or Marine Safety Information Bulletins.

If you have any questions contact my office at 409-723-6500. This notice will be posted on the HOMEPORt website <http://homeport.uscg.mil> and the VTS Website <http://www.uscg.mil/d8/vtspportarthur/msib.asp>



J. J. PLUNKETT
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port