

CLAIM SUMMARY / DETERMINATION FORM

Date	: 6/8/2011
Claim Number	: 911091-0001
Claimant	: Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Type of Claimant	: State
Type of Claim	: Public Services
Claim Manager	: Donna Hellberg
Amount Requested	: \$15,910.50

FACTS:

Oil spill Incident: On July 10, 2010, Coast Guard Station Menemsha's boathouse caught fire and resulted in the damage of several nearby vessels. To date, the USCG reports that there are no known RP's for the incident. The fuel and oil contained within the vessels' tanks posed a substantial threat of discharge. The USCG confirmed that during the initial response efforts, containment boom from the Claimant's response trailers was deployed to surround the area of the pier and the damaged vessels.

The USCG confirmed in a written statement that they were aware the boom was deployed and that the deployment was required by the Federal On Scene Coordinator's Representative (FOSCR). The USCG further confirmed that they would have taken the same action had they had to use response materials.

The Claim: On June 3, 2011, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) submitted a removal cost claim to the National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC) for reimbursement of their uncompensated removal costs in the amount of \$15,910.50.

The review of the actual cost invoicing and dailies focused on: (1) whether the actions taken were compensable "removal actions" under OPA and the claims regulations at 33 CFR 136 (e.g., actions to prevent, minimize, mitigate the effects of the incident); (2) whether the costs were incurred as a result of these actions; (3) whether the actions taken were consistent with the NCP or directed by the FOOSC, and (4) whether the costs were adequately documented.

APPLICABLE LAW:

"Oil" is defined in relevant part, at 33 USC § 2701(23), to mean "oil of any kind or in any form, including petroleum, fuel oil, sludge, oil refuse, and oil mixed with wastes other than dredged spoil".

The Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF), which is administered by the NPFC, is available, pursuant to 33 USC §§ 2712(a)(4) and 2713 and the OSLTF claims adjudication regulations at 33 CFR Part 136, to pay claims for uncompensated removal costs that are determined to be consistent with the National Contingency Plan and uncompensated damages. Removal costs are defined as "the costs of removal that are incurred after a discharge of oil has occurred or, in any case in which there is a substantial threat of a discharge of oil, the costs to prevent, minimize, or mitigate oil pollution from an incident".

Under 33 USC §2713(b)(2) and 33 CFR 136.103(d) no claim against the OSLTF may be approved or certified for payment during the pendency of an action by the claimant in court to recover the same costs that are the subject of the claim. See also, 33 USC §2713(c) and 33 CFR 136.103(c)(2) [claimant election].

33 U.S.C. §2713(d) provides that “If a claim is presented in accordance with this section, including a claim for interim, short-term damages representing less than the full amount of damages to which the claimant ultimately may be entitled, and full and adequate compensation is unavailable, a claim for the uncompensated damages and removal costs may be presented to the Fund.”

Under 33 CFR 136.105(a) and 136.105(e)(6), the claimant bears the burden of providing to the NPFC, all evidence, information, and documentation deemed necessary by the Director, NPFC, to support the claim.

Under 33 CFR 136.105(b) each claim must be in writing, for a sum certain for each category of uncompensated damages or removal costs resulting from an incident. In addition, under 33 CFR 136, the claimant bears the burden to prove the removal actions were reasonable in response to the scope of the oil spill incident, and the NPFC has the authority and responsibility to perform a reasonableness determination. Specifically, under 33 CFR 136.203, “a claimant must establish -

- (a) That the actions taken were necessary to prevent, minimize, or mitigate the effects of the incident;
- (b) That the removal costs were incurred as a result of these actions;
- (c) That the actions taken were determined by the FOSC to be consistent with the National Contingency Plan or were directed by the FOSC.”

Under 33 CFR 136.205 “the amount of compensation allowable is the total of uncompensated *reasonable* removal costs of actions taken that were determined by the FOSC to be consistent with the National Contingency Plan or were directed by the FOSC. Except in exceptional circumstances, removal *activities* for which costs are being claimed must have been coordinated with the FOSC.” [Emphasis added].

DETERMINATION OF LOSS:

A. Overview:

1. FOSC coordination has been provided by MSTC Sean Baker of Sector Southeastern New England.
2. The incident involved the substantial threat of discharge of “oil” as defined in OPA 90, 33 USC § 2701(23), to navigable waters.
3. In accordance with 33 CFR § 136.105(e) (12), the claimant has certified no suit has been filed in court for the claimed costs.
4. The claim was submitted on time.
5. The NPFC Claims Manager has thoroughly reviewed all documentation submitted with the claim. The NPFC worked with the claimant and provided some guidance with respect to the documentation presented. The Claims Manager has spoken with

the FOSCR, MSTC Sean Baker, and has confirmed all actions and activities performed were at the USCG's direction and oversight.

B. Determined Amount:

The NPFC hereby determines that the OSLTF will pay \$15,910.50 as full compensation for the reimbursable costs incurred by the claimant and submitted to the NPFC under claim# 911091-0001. All costs deemed compensable are for charges incurred while being retained by the USCG and, are compensable removal and public service costs, payable by the OSLTF as presented by the claimant.

AMOUNT: \$15,910.50

Claim Supervisor: *Thomas Morrison*

Date of Supervisor's review: *6/8/11*

Supervisor Action: *Approved*

Supervisor's Comments:

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

**United States
Coast Guard**



Director
United States Coast Guard
National Pollution Funds Center

NPFC CA MS 7100
US COAST GUARD
4200 Wilson Blvd. Suite 1000
Arlington, VA 20598-7100
Staff Symbol: (CA)
Phone: 202-493-6839
E-mail:
[REDACTED]@uscg.mil
Fax: 202-493-6937

5890
6/8/2011

VIA EMAIL: Richard.packard@state.ma.us

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
ATTN: Richard Packard
1 Winter Street
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Claim Number 911091-0001

Dear Mr. Packard:

The National Pollution Funds Center (NPFC), in accordance with the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) (33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.), has determined that \$15,910.50 is full compensation for OPA claim number 911091-0001.

This determination is based on an analysis of the information submitted. Please see the attached determination for further details regarding the rationale for this decision.

All costs that are not determined as compensable are considered denied. You may make a written request for reconsideration of this claim. The reconsideration must be received by the NPFC within 60 days of the date of this letter and must include the factual or legal basis of the request for reconsideration, providing any additional support for the claims. Reconsideration will be based upon the information provided and a claim may be reconsidered only once. Disposition of the reconsideration will constitute final agency action. Failure of the NPFC to issue a written decision within 90 days after receipt of a timely request for reconsideration shall, at the option of the claimant, be deemed final agency action. All correspondence should include corresponding claim number.

Mail reconsideration request to:

Director (ca)
NPFC CA MS 7100
US COAST GUARD
4200 Wilson Blvd, Suite 1000
Arlington, VA 20598-7100

If you accept this determination, please sign the enclosed Acceptance/Release Form where indicated and return to the above address.

If we do not receive the signed original Acceptance/Release Form within 60 days of the date of this letter, the determination is void. If the determination is accepted, an original signature and a valid tax identification number (EIN or SSN) are required for payment. If you are a Claimant that has submitted other claims to the National Pollution Funds Center, you are required to have a valid Central Contractor Registration (CCR) record prior to payment. If you do not, you may register free of charge at www.ccr.gov. Your payment will be mailed or electronically deposited in your account within 60 days of receipt of the Release Form.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the matter, you may contact me at the above address or by phone at 202-493-6839.

Sincerely,

Donna Hellberg
Claims Manager

ENCL: Claim Summary / Determination Form

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

**United States
Coast Guard**



Director
United States Coast Guard
National Pollution Funds Center

NPFC CA MS 7100
US COAST GUARD
4200 Wilson Blvd. Suite 1000
Arlington, VA 20598-7100
Staff Symbol: (CA)
Phone: 202-493-6839
E-mail: [REDACTED]@uscg.mil
Fax: 202-493-6937

Claim Number: 911091-0001	Claimant Name: Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ATTN: Richard Packard 1 Winter Street Boston, MA 02108
---------------------------	---

I, the undersigned, ACCEPT the determination of \$15,910.50 as full compensation for the removal costs and public services.

This determination represents full and final release and satisfaction of all removal costs and public services under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(4)), associated with the above referenced claim. This determination is not an admission of liability by any party. I hereby assign, transfer, and subrogate to the United States all rights, claims, interest and rights of action, that I may have against any party, person, firm or corporation that may be liable for the loss. I authorize the United States to sue, compromise or settle in my name and the United States fully substituted for me and subrogated to all of my rights arising from the incident. I warrant that no legal action has been brought regarding this matter and no settlement has been or will be made by me or any person on my behalf with any other party for costs which are the subject of the claim against the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (Fund).

I, the undersigned, agree that, upon acceptance of any compensation from the Fund, I will cooperate fully with the United States in any claim and/or action by the United States against any person or party to recover the compensation. The cooperation shall include, but is not limited to, immediately reimbursing the Fund any compensation received from any other source for the same claim, providing any documentation, evidence, testimony, and other support, as may be necessary for the United States to recover from any other person or party.

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information contained in this claim represents all material facts and is true. I understand that misrepresentation of facts is subject to prosecution under federal law (including, but not limited to 18 U.S.C. 287 and 1001).

_____	_____
Title of Person Signing	Date of Signature
_____	_____
Typed or Printed Name of Claimant or Name of Authorized Representative	Signature

_____	_____
Title of Witness	Date of Signature
_____	_____
Typed or Printed Name of Witness	Signature

_____	_____	_____
TIN Required for Payment	Bank Routing Number	Bank Account Number