

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Commandant  
United States Coast Guard

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Stop 7516  
Washington, DC 20593-7516  
Staff Symbol: CG-MER  
Phone: (202) 372-2234

16455  
March 15, 2019

Alaska Maritime Prevention & Response Network  
Attn: Mr. Buddy Custard  
1400 West Benson Blvd  
Suite 220  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Mr. Custard:

The Coast Guard has considered your request dated February 19, 2019, for a six-month extension of the Alaska Maritime Prevention & Response Network's (AMPRN) Alternate Planning Criteria (APC) for tank vessels carrying Groups II-V oil cargoes operating in the Western Alaska (WAK) Captain of the Port (COTP) zone. This tank vessel APC is set to expire on March 31, 2019. The Coast Guard will extend acceptance of this APC for Vessel Response Plan (VRP) requirements, as appropriate per 33 C.F.R § 155.1065, through **September 30, 2019**. The Coast Guard will consider a subsequent approval contingent to the following conditions:

1. AMPRN shows continued progress toward working with the Coast Guard in creating an APC that provides an equivalent level of planning, response or mitigation strategies to the National Planning Criteria (NPC) of your client's vessels. AMPRN should meet monthly and work in good faith with Coast Guard Sector Anchorage and District 17 (D17) to ensure concerns with the current APC, as previously delineated in prior official correspondence, are addressed in your renewal application.
2. An updated APC proposal for tank vessels carrying Groups II-V oils must be received by Sector Anchorage no later than August 1, 2019.

Vessel owners/operators using this APC must comply with all other State and Federal regulations. This APC, along with a copy of this letter, must be kept with your respective client's VRP onboard their vessels.

This APC is accepted for plan holders that believe the National Planning Criteria (NPC) for their vessel is inappropriate. If a plan holder determines that the NPC are achievable in an area covered by this acceptance, their VRP may not reference this APC, and they must contract with resource providers in order to comply with NPC requirements.

The Coast Guard highly encourages AMPRN to regularly engage the COTP, Oil Spill Response Organizations, Regional Response Teams and Coast Guard Area Committees in identifying locations where build out of response resources may be economically viable and effective.

My staff, D17 and Sector Anchorage look forward to working with AMPRN to continue addressing plan holder shortfalls in meeting NPC in certain areas of the Western Alaska COTP Zone. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my VRP staff, LCDR Walner Alvarez (202-372-1226, walner.w.alvarez@uscg.mil) or Mr. Chris Friese (202-372-1227, christopher.r.friese@uscg.mil) at any time should you have questions or wish to discuss.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. M. Alonso".

R. M. ALONSO  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard  
Chief, Office of Marine Environmental Response Policy

Copy: Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area (PAC-54, 35)  
Commander, Seventeenth Coast Guard District (dp, dr)  
Commander, Coast Guard Sector Anchorage (s, sp, sr)