

alternative voluntary advisory group for Cook Inlet, Alaska.

DATES: June 1, 1995, through May 31, 1996.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Mrs. Janice Jackson, Project Manager, Marine Environmental Protection Division, (G-MEP-3), (202) 267-0500, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street S.W., Washington, DC, 20593-0001.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As part of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, Congress passed the Oil Terminal and Oil Tanker Environmental Oversight and Monitoring Act of 1990, (the Act), 33 U.S.C. 2732, to foster the long-term partnership among industry, government, and local communities in overseeing compliance with environmental concerns in the operation of crude oil terminals and oil tankers.

Section 2732(o) permits an alternative voluntary advisory group to represent the communities and interests in the vicinity of the oil terminal facilities in Cook Inlet, in lieu of a council of the type specified in 33 U.S.C. 2732(d), if certain conditions are met. The Act requires that the group enter into a contract to ensure annual funding and receive annual certification by the President that it fosters the general goals and purposes of the Act and is broadly representative of the community and interests in the vicinity of the terminal facilities. Accordingly, in 1991, the President granted certification to the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (CIRCAC). The authority to certify alternative advisory groups was subsequently delegated to the Commandant of the Coast Guard, and redelegated to the Chief, Office of Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection.

On April 20, 1995, the Coast Guard announced in the **Federal Register**, the availability of the application for recertification that it received from the CIRCAC, and requested comments (60 FR 19803). Six comments were received.

Discussion of Comments

The Coast Guard received six comments in response to the recertification application of the CIRCAC. Five of these supported recertification of CIRCAC without reservation. However, a comment received from a member of the CIRCAC Monitoring Committee, while supporting recertification, offered constructive criticism in several areas.

The comment raised several important issues and possible methods of addressing what the commenter perceives as shortcomings in the current

operation of CIRCAC. Specifically, the comment suggested limiting the terms of office for CIRCAC members and committee leaders. This, according to the comment, would help to increase local participation through the years by involving greater numbers of individuals from the community. The comment suggests that unless greater numbers of local citizens are involved, CIRCAC may become too removed from the regional community. The comment also suggests a close review of the focus of CIRCAC's activities. The comment suggest that too much emphasis, and funds, may be placed on travel outside the region, rather than activities sponsored within the community. The Coast Guard has forwarded the comment to CIRCAC and asked the members to review the issues raised, consider the suggestions put forth, and provide a response to the Coast Guard.

In a related issue, the Coast Guard has noted through the year in its own review of CIRCAC, that the open budget process needed improvement to assure that it is maintained in a manner which will ensure that all members are aware of the projects being undertaken and the funds being expended by CIRCAC and its subcommittees. The Coast Guard notes that significant progress has been made to rectify this problem. The Coast Guard will continue to stress the need for an open budget process and consider CIRCAC's progress in this area when reviewing future applications for recertification.

It is the Coast Guard's position that the issues raised by the CIRCAC Monitoring Committee member and the Coast Guard can be addressed successfully by CIRCAC and, in fact, progress has been made in these areas in recent months. In light of this, and the many positive comments received regarding CIRCAC's performance throughout the year, the Coast Guard has determined that recertification of CIRCAC in accordance with the Act is appropriate. The Coast Guard has informed CIRCAC that documentation should be included in CIRCAC's recertification application next year indicating how each of the issues raised by the Monitoring Committee Member and the Coast Guard have been addressed.

Recertification

By letter dated May 30, 1995, the Chief, Office of Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection certified that the Cook Inlet Regional Citizens' Advisory Council qualifies as an alternative voluntary advisory group under the provisions of 33 U.S.C. 2732(o). This recertification terminates

on May 31, 1996. The Cook Inlet Regional Citizens' Advisory Council was advised to review and address the issues raised during this recertification period in order to strengthen the organization and foster the goals and purposes of the Act. These efforts will be examined with future recertification requests of the CIRCAC.

Dated: June 23, 1995.

Joseph J. Angelo,

Acting Chief, Office of Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection.

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[CGD 95-058]

National Boating Safety Advisory Council; Application for Appointment

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Request for applicants.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Coast Guard is seeking additional applicants for appointment to membership on the National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC). The Council is a 21 member Federal advisory committee that advises the Coast Guard on matters related to recreational boating safety.

DATES: Completed application forms must be received by August 29, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Requests for application forms, as well as the completed application forms, should be sent to Commandant (G-NAB), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, DC 20593-0001; telephone: (202) 267-1077.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. A. J. Marmo, Executive Director, National Boating Safety Advisory Council (G-NAB), Room 1202, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW, Washington, DC 20593-0001; (202) 267-1077.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NBSAC was formed by the Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971. Members for the Council are drawn equally from the following sectors of the boating community: State officials responsible for State boating safety programs; recreational boat and associated equipment manufacturers; and national recreational boating organizations and the general public. Members are appointed by the Secretary of Transportation. Applicants are considered for membership on the basis of their expertise, knowledge, and experience in recreational boating safety. The terms of appointment are staggered so that seven vacancies occur each year.

Applications are being sought for membership vacancies that will occur as