

SCOMM

77:38



REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

April 11, 1991

Senator Dick Eliason
P. O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Eliason:

The citizens represented by the Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (RCAC) encourage you to do all that is within your power to see that the Exxon Valdez Damage Assessment studies become a part of the public record. More than \$70 million of public funds have been invested to collect invaluable information necessary to understand the damage caused to Alaskan coastal ecosystems by oil spills; Alaskans have the right to know the impacts to their resources.

Enclosed is RCAC Resolution 91-5 stating the Council's support for the full disclosure of Damage Assessment studies. RCAC requests your support.

Sincerely,

Sheila K. Gottehrer
Executive Director
Regional Citizens' Advisory Council



REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

Resolution 91-5

EXXON VALDEZ DAMAGE ASSESSMENT STUDIES

WHEREAS, the United States and Alaska State governments undertook scientific studies under the authority of Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Clean Water Act to assess the damages of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill; and

WHEREAS, these studies involve the expenditure of public funds in the amount in excess of \$70 million; and

WHEREAS, the information from these studies will not only assess the damages in the short term but are designed to predict long term impacts; and

WHEREAS, it is the business of the Regional Citizens' Advisory Council to understand and to promote the understanding of damages caused by oil spills in order to strengthen public commitment to the prevention of future spills;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Regional Citizens' Advisory Council ask the Governor of the State of Alaska, the Attorney General of the United States and the Attorney General of the State of Alaska to release all of the information generated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Coast Guard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the spirit of cooperation and public education the Regional Citizens' Advisory Council asks that Exxon also release all information generated by their damage assessment studies.

Certification

This resolution was duly adopted by the RCAC at an RCAC meeting held March 22, 1991 by the following vote:

Ayes 10

Nays 0

Abstain 0

Marilyn Leland, Secretary

Chris Gates, President