

00001

1 EXXON VALDEZ OIL SPILL
2 TRUSTEE COUNCIL
3 Teleconference Meeting
4 Friday, April 7, 2000
5 3:46 o'clock p.m.
6 645 G Street
7 Anchorage, Alaska

8 TRUSTEE COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT (ALL TELEPHONICALLY):

9 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - MR. DAVE GIBBONS

10 U.S. FOREST SERVICE Trustee Representative

11 (Chairman)

12 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - NMFS: MR. BRUCE WRIGHT for

13 MR. STEVE PENNOYER

14 Director, Alaska Region

15 STATE OF ALASKA - MR. CRAIG TILLERY

16 DEPARTMENT OF LAW: Trustee Representative

17 for the Attorney General

18 STATE OF ALASKA - DEPARTMENT MR. FRANK RUE

19 OF FISH AND GAME: Commissioner

20 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR: MR. BARRY ROTH for

21 MS. MARILYN HEIMAN

22 Special Assistant to the

23 Secretary for Alaska

24 STATE OF ALASKA - DEPARTMENT MS. MICHELE BROWN

25 OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION: Commissioner

00002

1 TRUSTEE COUNCIL STAFF PRESENT:

2

3 MS. MOLLY McCAMMON Executive Director

4

5 MS. SANDRA SCHUBERT Director of Restoration

6

7 MS. REBECCA WILLIAMS Administrative Manager

8

9 DR. BOB SPIES (Telephonically) Chief Scientist

10

11 DR. PHIL MUNDY (Telephonically) Science Coordinator

12

13 MR. JOE HUNT Communications Specialist

14

15 MS. CLAUDIA SLATER ADF&G

16 (Telephonically)

00003

1 TABLE OF CONTENTS

2

3 Call to Order 04

4

5 Approval of Forward GEM Document to NRC for Review 09

6

7 Adjournment 11

00004

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 (On record - 3:46 p.m.)

3 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: I'd like to call the
4 recessed meeting to order and I believe we have one agenda
5 topic is all; is that correct, Molly?

6 MS. McCAMMON: Yes, that's correct.

7 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: You want to walk us through
8 that?

9 MS. McCAMMON: Well, you should probably say
10 who's on line.

11 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Okay. If I can remember
12 who's on line. We have on line is Craig Tillery representing
13 the Department of Law; Michele Brown, DEC; Frank Rue,
14 Department of Fish and Game; Barry Roth, Department of
15 Interior; Bruce Wright, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries
16 Service; and Dave Gibbons with the Forest Service.

17 MS. McCAMMON: Okay. The one item on the
18 agenda is to consider the April 5th review draft of the GEM
19 document and to consider approving it for going forward for
20 National Research Council review.

21 This document has been revised following discussion at
22 the last meeting, it incorporates all of the comments and
23 suggestions that were given at that meeting. I think everyone
24 should have received a copy that had the major sections
25 highlighted for you. There's also just additional editing

00005

1 we've been going through now trying to improve some of it for
2 readability, making sure that all the figures match, doing a
3 lot of technical editing and things of that nature. So in that
4 sense those changes will happen in the next few days and we'll
5 continue working on that until the document actually goes out.
6 But I think just in response to the comments and discussions at
7 the last meeting that this reflects what the Council said at
8 that time.

9 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Okay. I've looked at it and
10 it reflects the comments that the Forest Service had.

11 MR. WRIGHT: I had made some comments and I see
12 that they're incorporated in there.

13 MR. ROTH: Department of Interior feels the
14 same way.

15 MS. BROWN: This is Michele, I feel the same
16 way.

17 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Well, do I hear a motion on
18 the table.

19 MR. WRIGHT: I moved that we adopt the draft
20 GEM Plan, April 5th version, and to then move that it can go to
21 the NRC for their review.

22 MS. BROWN: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Any discussion?

24 MR. ROTH: Don't we want to leave Molly the
25 right to make editing changes for readability and so forth in

00006

1 the plan going to the Research Council?

2 MR. RUE: Yes.

3 MR. WRIGHT: And that there would be some minor
4 changes made by the Executive Director before it goes to the
5 NRC, yes.

6 MS. BROWN: And I concur with that.

7 MR. TILLERY: Yeah, this is Craig Tillery. I
8 have previously spoken to Molly about this, but I -- I didn't
9 have any questions with what was written here, but on page 71
10 at the bottom where it sort of gets into a more detailed
11 discussion of PDO, I had talked to her about whether that was a
12 correct location for that or if it should be in a different
13 spot, maybe in a more detailed discussion that follows or
14 something and that's the kind of issue I'd like for her to look
15 at over -- you know, before it goes in.

16 MS. McCAMMON: Right, and I would consider that
17 minor editing.

18 MR. TILLERY: Right, I would agree with that.

19 MS. McCAMMON: Yeah, okay.

20 MR. RUE: I guess I'd like Molly to maybe
21 describe what the NRC will -- the product we're going to be
22 getting from them.

23 MS. McCAMMON: Okay. I did send out a memo,
24 and I'm not sure if you received it, Frank, since you've been
25 in Anchorage, it was probably sent to your Juneau office

00007

1 yesterday afternoon, but I did send out a memo to the Council
2 describing the process as it looks now. We have been in
3 discussions with the NRC and have, at least, tentatively
4 negotiated kind of a revision to their review process and
5 timetable. What we've been talking about is that this document
6 would go to them at the end of next week, that they would have
7 -- they should be announcing the committee make up shortly,
8 within the next week or two. They would have their first
9 meeting in either May or June, depends on the committee
10 members' schedules. They would have three meetings to gain an
11 overview of the research and monitoring activities in the spill
12 area to date. This would include the Trustee Council sponsored
13 research as well as other research by other entities in the
14 spill area. But, basically, get up to date in terms of the
15 state of knowledge about the Gulf ecosystem and resources.
16 They would be briefed by interested parties in Alaska and
17 they'd become familiar with the content of this draft document
18 in order to produce an interim report.

19 We just got the project description for this kind of
20 revised scenario, so we still need to review it and review the
21 budget and all. They would then -- following those three
22 meetings, they would give us the interim report in November of
23 this fall. Actually the interim report comes in February of
24 2001, I'm sorry. That interim report does get peer reviewed
25 outside of the NRC. At the same time, kind of concurrently

00008

1 with all of this, staff would begin developing what we call the
2 Research and Monitoring Plan, which is the more detailed
3 version of what actually GEM would fund. And in that memo we
4 laid out a suggested process and timetable for that. That
5 includes drafting kind of a straw version of the plan, meeting
6 with various managers, stakeholders, the public, in small focus
7 groups. Having the annual workshop instead of in January of
8 next year, having it in October, this fall, and putting the
9 final detail to the plan. It would then be distributed for
10 public review, comment and hopefully be in sufficient shape for
11 the Council to approve it by around mid-January, allowing it to
12 go to the NRC sometime in February or March for their review to
13 begin.

14 So we understand that there are two products. They
15 would then go through their review process for that and
16 conclude with a final document which would include
17 recommendations on the research and monitoring plan, as well as
18 any final conclusions regarding the entire program. And that
19 would be finished by, looking the date here, November of 2001.

20 So that's the schedule that we have proposed, and in
21 this memo that I've sent you I've asked for your comments and
22 suggestions and feedback on this in the next two weeks so that
23 we can get this process underway.

24 And, Frank, I can get you a copy of this wherever you
25 are if you need it, but it is.....

00009

1 MR. RUE: That's okay, as long as it's.....

2 MS. McCAMMON: It's in Juneau.

3 MR. RUE: Oh, it's there, okay.

4 MS. McCAMMON: Yeah.

5 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Any other questions or
6 comments?

7 (No audible responses)

8 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: We have a motion on the
9 floor to move the April 5th, 2000 review draft to the NRC, all
10 in favor say aye.

11 IN UNISON: Aye.

12 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Opposed?

13 (No opposing responses)

14 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Motion carries.

15 Molly, do you have anything else for us today.

16 MS. McCAMMON: That's it, other than to note
17 that we do have a meeting scheduled now in Juneau for April
18 24th and at that meeting we plan to have on the agenda the
19 asset allocation plan, the proposed payout schedule and then
20 probably the business plan for the archaeology repository.

21 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Good.

22 MR. TILLERY: Is that meeting firm enough to
23 buy plane tickets?

24 MS. McCAMMON: I think so, everyone's confirmed
25 for it and, yes.

00010

1 MS. BROWN: Molly, you know, depending on what
2 happens with the session, they could be wrapping up right then,
3 they could be done, they could be wrapping then, it could end
4 up being a conflict problem.

5 MS. McCAMMON: Right.

6 MS. BROWN: But I mean, as long as -- I mean,
7 we can leave it open for sending delegates if we need to, but
8 it's just a highlight. They are talking about going home that
9 weekend.

10 MS. McCAMMON: Yeah. Michele, I think with the
11 asset allocation plan and the payout schedules I think it's
12 going to be important to try and get everyone there if we can.
13 And if we need to postpone it then we'll do that, but I think
14 this is one that everybody is going to want to be together. I
15 think there'll be some discussion, quite a bit of discussion.

16 MS. BROWN: And there's just no way of
17 predicting now what will be happening in Juneau.

18 MS. McCAMMON: Right. But if it ends up where,
19 you know, several people or one or two people are on by
20 teleconference, that's -- we've done that before, too.

21 MS. BROWN: Thank you for the work on the GEM
22 report.

23 MS. McCAMMON: Okay. Thank you.

24 MR. RUE: I second that.

25 MR. WRIGHT: Yeah, good job.

00011

1 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Do we need to recess this
2 meeting or adjourn it? Do we have a topic, Koniag, or
3 something coming up?

4 MS. McCAMMON: No, I think we can adjourn it.

5 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Okay. Do I hear a motion to
6 adjourn?

7 MR. ROTH: So moved.

8 MR. WRIGHT: Second.

9 MR. RUE: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: All those in favor.

11 IN UNISON: Aye

12 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: All those opposed?

13 (No opposing responses)

14 CHAIRMAN GIBBONS: Okay. Everybody have a good
15 weekend.

16 (Off record - 3:57 p.m.)

17 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

00012

1 CERTIFICATE

2
3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

4) ss.

5 STATE OF ALASKA)

6 I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the
7 state of Alaska and owner of Computer Matrix do hereby certify:

8 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 4 through 11 contain
9 a full, true and correct transcript of the Exxon Valdez Oil
10 Spill Trustee Council's Teleconference Meeting recorded
11 electronically by me on the 7th day of April 2000, commencing
12 at the hour of 3:46 p.m. and thereafter transcribed by me to
13 the best of my knowledge and ability.

14 THAT the Transcript has been prepared at the request
15 of:

16 EXXON VALDEZ TRUSTEE COUNCIL, 645 G Street,
17 Anchorage, Alaska 99501;

18 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska this 14th day of April
19 2000.

20 SIGNED AND CERTIFIED TO BY:

21 _____
22 Joseph P. Kolasinski
23 Notary Public in and for Alaska
24 My Commission Expires: 04/17/00