

Peer Review Plan

Date: 6/30/2016

BSEE Funding Source or Author's Division: Oil Spill Preparedness Division
45600 Woodland Road
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Sterling, VA 20166

Title: Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) Equipment Capabilities Review

Subject and Purpose: It has been nearly two decades since BSEE's OSRP regulations have been updated. During this time, changes occurred in drilling trends as well as the risks associated with oil spills. The national response system within the United States has also matured over time; Regional Contingency Plans (RCPs) and Area Contingency Plans (ACPs) have been approved that contain extensive oil removal and protection strategies, including the preauthorized use of dispersants and in-situ burning. New technologies, such as remote sensing, are now commercially available and stand poised to transform our abilities to respond offshore.

In an effort to understand this changing environment, BSEE awarded a contract to Booz Allen Hamilton (BAH) in 2014 to catalogue the changes in the WCD scenarios found in OSRPs for the OCS, and evaluate the oil spill response industry's capabilities to mitigate these spills through existing equipment stockpiles and technology using the strategies outlined in today's RCPs and ACPs. BAH completed the study, the *Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) Equipment Capabilities Review*, which is contained in *Volume I: Worst Case Discharge Analysis* and *Volume II: Oil Spill Response Equipment Capabilities Analysis*, in February 2016.

Impact of Dissemination: As parts of this study will be used to support an anticipated rulemaking effort, and may also meet the criteria for "influential scientific information" under the Office of Management and Budget's Memorandum on Peer Review (OMB M-05-03), BSEE determined that selected sections of the study should be subjected to a peer review.

Timing of Review: June 2016 – January 2017

Manner of Review, Selection of Reviewers, and Nomination Process: Review was facilitated by an independent third party, Endyna, Inc. Endyna selected the reviewers pursuant to the requirements in BSEE's Peer Review Process Manual. Endyna conducted the review by individual e-mail/letters/memoranda/documents and through a 2-day review panel meeting held on September 8-9, 2016 at the Endyna office facilities.

BSEE defined the scope of this peer review through the use of a prepared set of Charge Questions. The peer reviewers were directed to keep their written comments focused on the spill modeling

that was conducted and its support for the final recommendations contained within the study. The review was technical in nature, and did not extend to the regulatory benchmarking analysis, Deepwater Horizon spill response case study, the analysis of changing regional WCD profiles, or other sections of Volumes I and II that were not related to the modeling or the recommendations. The peer reviewers could refer to these out-of-scope sections when providing written comments on the recommendations section.

Expected Number of Reviewers: Endyna used a structured process to select three (3) peer reviewers who are independent (i.e. not involved with the report reviewed), objective, unbiased, and have significant expertise in the subject matter.

Requisite Expertise: The panel of reviewers have expertise in oil spill fate and transport modeling, both on the water's surface and in the subsea environment, and in the use of oil spill response countermeasures.

Opportunity for Public Comment: No, the opportunity for public comment is not formally incorporated into the BSEE peer review plan for the peer review of this document.

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