

Phosy, Krisna LCTZ:EX

From: Danks, Anthony ENV:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 4:32 PM
To: ENV Executive Committee
Cc: Paquin, Lisa C ENV:EX; Bell, Christina ENV:EX
Subject: Changes at Environment Canada Following Budget 2012 April 18
Attachments: Changes at Environment Canada Following Budget 2012_April 18 (2).docx

Some information for you. And I would encourage you to share this with your director/manager teams.

Keep in mind when looking at this that at the federal level, branches are divisions and divisions are branches when compared to B.C. provincial government organizational structures.

Anthony

Changes at Environment Canada Following Budget 2012

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Environmental Protection Operations Directorate

1. Environmental Emergency Program (EEP)

- Will move to a centralized model that will be largely delivered out of two main locations, Montreal & Gatineau. Overall 23 EC environmental emergency staff across the country are being eliminated. The transition will occur between May and end of June.
 - The 5 person Environmental Emergencies section in Vancouver is being entirely disbanded. 3 of the existing 5 staff in Vancouver will be losing their jobs and are currently seeking job opportunities

s.13

s.13

- The National Emergency Centre and response expertise will be in Montreal. All calls for spills in BC (and all of Canada) will be routed to staff in Montreal to address. All exercise and regional planning for BC will also be done out of Montreal.
 - They will participate in spill response incidents by conference call from Montreal with a focus on “coordination of science”. In the event of a Spill of National Significance they would send people from Montreal to the incident.
 - The implementation of the environmental emergencies regulations and participation in federal prevention and preparedness work will continue to take place out of Gatineau.
 - Notification regime with PEP will be maintained, but contacts will change. Each region will have a position that will liaise with provincial and territorial authorities, and EC will continue to provide its technical expertise to environmental emergencies. However, travel budgets have also been reduced which will have an impact on the ability of remaining staff in Montreal to travel to British Columbia.
 - Coast Guard & Transport Canada are to receive increased funding to respond, however, these agencies do not have the required environmental expertise.
- As a result, EC will have little or no surge capacity in the event of a major spill to bring in responders from across the country. Vancouver EC staff share the current

workload with our EEROs, work that our staff will now have to manage. Providing the current level of service, strong relationships and familiarity required in emergency management from Montreal is not realistic.

- Provincial experts believe that EC should be the lead federal agency for all spills in order to determine if a cleanup is adequate to protect the environment or public safety. Agencies such as the Coast Guard, National Energy Board, and Transport Canada should provide support based on their expertise in stabilizing a vessel or pipeline.
- Recent communication with Coast Guard around spill response training, suggests they don't know if they will have the available funding. This leaves uncertainty as to the extent of additional resources to be provided, and what relevance they may have.

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

EE Impacts

April 17/12

- 5-10% cut (2 proposals)
- TB put targets on port folios
- EE received 8% reduction
- Dept 5.5% reduction

Page

Impacts

- Emergencies → still be delivered with 4 Key pillars.
- focus prep + response out of Montreal
- "Coordination of science"
- REET out of Montreal
- Exercises out of Montreal
- Notifications go to PEP → Montreal will take calls from PEP
- REET will still happen from Montreal. work done by phone
- SONS - will fly people out.
- Local support still available from partners.

Recovery - less involvement

Enforcement = same

Prevention = compliance promotion in regional (review plans) Will be fed-prov. liaison.

• staff merit based

- 23 less EE staff across country

- Vancouver staff =

S22

S22

→ 1 position

others out of Govt.

S22

Duty roster
rotated
b/w end of
May + June
transition

- Travel budgets down too
- Montreal will do Int'l Exercises
- Transition May through July
- Suspect annual REET Mtg. will take role

S22

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Not Responsive

● EC: Update / KEET

- Still regional office lead for now.
- \$3.8 million savings (overtime/standing costs majority). 23 out of 50 positions in EC EE lost.
- ESTC - Ottawa → 2 staff lost @ the center.
- Response/implementation will be more based on requests for service.

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

SERO Call

May 2/12

- EL → 6 regional teams to 1 in Montreal
- "Same" level of service
- Regional knowledge, contacts etc. lost
- ex:
 - Reporting through PEP
 - Transition to be completed by July 1st
 - Lots of unanswered questions
 - Staff/protocols in Montreal + Gatineau not yet determined or set.
 - Van. office continues for now to address calls.
- → Not sure how federal lands will be resolved with no field staff in BC.

Not Responsive

- EERO decide full clean up or not.
 → 1/2 of the way

s.13

May 9/12

Not Responsive

cor } → absence of TC + EC - concern if
 not avail. during real ~~st~~ in Mont

Not Responsive

→ Absence of REET very noticeable.
 How to address federal species issues
 in their absence? Where are feds?
 → No overall address to ICP - leadership
 and common briefing needs to be addressed

Page

→ PIO wasn't exercised. Stakeholders demanded / expected media briefings and info.

Not Responsive

→ Not enough tech specialists to do jobs (fed / prov). These people need to be identified and show up.

* → 2 Ops group (day / next day) was

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

EERO Conf. Call

May 30/12

• Staff
• JTD
• Leg
• Clean
• Pse

• EC → Vancouver coverage ends June 11th
→ All to Montreal after but no details on transition issues.

* → Jennifer Tenant + Grant Hogg @ EC
for

- Chris R. → Obing emergency compliance
→ Others?

Page

Not Responsive

From: Poss, Angie GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 12:11 PM
To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Cc: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Subject: FW: CBYG: Sweet: Environmental emergency cuts

Graham
Do you have any info on this? any impacts on us?

From: Johnston, Karen GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 12:10 PM
To: Poss, Angie GCPE:EX
Cc: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Subject: Fw: CBYG: Sweet: Environmental emergency cuts

You guys looking in to this...doing a BN?

From: Giddens, Kiel ENV:EX
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 12:03 PM
To: Gilmore, Dan GCPE:EX; Johnston, Karen GCPE:EX
Cc: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Subject: FW: CBYG: Sweet: Environmental emergency cuts

I'd keep an eye on this one

Kiel Giddens
Ministerial Assistant to the Hon. Terry Lake
Minister of Environment
Phone: (250) 387-1187
Fax: (250) 387-1356
Email: Kiel.Giddens@gov.bc.ca

From: tno@gov.bc.ca [<mailto:tno@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 10:53 AM
Subject: CBYG: Sweet: Environmental emergency cuts

CBYG (CBC Prince George)
CBC Daybreak North
17-Apr-2012 07:45

TNO...

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Not Responsive

From: Poss, Angie GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 1:52 PM
To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Cc: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Subject: RE: CBYG: Sweet: Environmental emergency cuts

Thanks Graham.

From: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2012 1:50 PM
To: Poss, Angie GCPE:EX
Cc: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Subject: RE: CBYG: Sweet: Environmental emergency cuts

Greetings,

Yes - this decision will have a major impact on us, most immediately in terms of workload as 5 EERO like positions will be lost in Vancouver (that support spills BC wide) and this alone will result in downloading of additional work to our staff. I have been playing telephone tag with Environment Canada since Friday to get direct information and discuss the immediate impacts and their plans for managing this transition to ensure we have an accurate and clear picture.

We have begun to develop an info note on the various ramifications for us and spill response in BC more generally to more fully outline the impacts.

Thanks,

Graham

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Not Responsive

From: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 8:56 AM
To: Johnston, Karen GCPE:EX; Poss, Angie GCPE:EX
Cc: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Subject: RE: CBYG: Sweet: Environmental emergency cuts

Graham has been tracking this. Note that MTL has asked questions regarding the effect of the changes on where delivery will come from on the federal side (ie hearing the some functions could be transferred to Montreal). I have asked Graham to brief me on what he is learning.

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Not Responsive

From: Stockerl, Ed ENV:EX
Sent: Monday, May 7, 2012 2:46 PM
To: Meeks, Ken ENV:EX; ENV EEROS
Subject: RE: re: EC call-forwarding to PEP

Hi Ken.

Seems that transitioning and downloading strategies/tactics may have been initiated early, well ahead of the formal July changes. This would not be a big deal if the caller intended to report a spill since such reports should come through PEP as a one window approach anyway. However, if the caller was wanting to complain about a non spill-issue or non-compliance on federal lands, it would not seem appropriate to redirect to PEP.

s.13

Either way though, the voice message to callers contacting EC should at least advise that the message or call will be redirected to PEP.

Ken, how did you or PEP deal with this? Did you code it as Federal and then have it referred back to Environ Canada or did someone call to ask "what the heck"?

Ed

From: Meeks, Ken ENV:EX
Sent: Monday, May 7, 2012 11:09 AM
To: ENV EEROS
Subject: re: EC call-forwarding to PEP

An interesting bit of information passed on to me by Shannon from PEP earlier today they received a call from a complainant this morning who believed he was speaking to Environment Canada. Apparently the individual phoned Environment Canada and PEP received the call directly (i.e., EC did not pick up the call and transfer; it was a direct call-forward from EC to PEP). It wasn't until part way through the call that Shannon asked the individual to which agency he thought he was speaking.

Another interesting point - the incident turned out to be a "Code 1, Federal."

=====

Ken Meeks, MRM
Environmental Emergency Response Officer
Ministry of Environment | Environmental Emergency Program
2nd Floor, 10470 152nd St. | Surrey | BC | V3R 0Y3
Tel: (604) 582-5287 | Fax: (604) 584-9751

Not Responsive

From: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX
Sent: Monday, May 7, 2012 2:48 PM
To: Stockerl, Ed ENV:EX; Meeks, Ken ENV:EX; ENV EEROS
Subject: Re: re: EC call-forwarding to PEP

Fyi the EC 1-604-666-6100 emergency number is still functioning.

From: Stockerl, Ed ENV:EX
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2012 02:45 PM
To: Meeks, Ken ENV:EX; ENV EEROS
Subject: RE: re: EC call-forwarding to PEP

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Sent: Monday, May 7, 2012 2:54 PM
To: Stockerl, Ed ENV:EX; ENV EEROS
Subject: RE: re: EC call-forwarding to PEP

Ed,

You're right in that this call was something we normally receive through PEP (i.e., sunken boat leaking oil); however, the caller did request specific contact with an EC representative in the PEP report.

Regarding my response, I handled the call as "business as usual," coded it Fed, 1. I assume PEP would have then forwarded to EC (perhaps in Montreal) for their follow-up.

I also see Laurie has just advised the EC emergency number is still functioning. I'm not sure which number the original caller used, but Shannon did advise when I spoke to her that the caller was under the impression he was speaking to Environment Canada. As you say Ed, s.13 or it could have been he actually called PEP and thought he was calling a federal number.

Who knows... just something we should keep in mind.

Ken

=====

Ken Meeks, Environmental Emergency Response Officer
Ministry of Environment | Tel: (604) 582-5287

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Not Responsive

s.13

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From: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 3:20 PM
To: Fallows, Norm ENV:EX; Grant, Alex J ENV:EX
Cc: ENV EEROS
Subject: Re: EC Environmental Response?

Greetings,

At this time I have no info on the impacts to EC emergencies or how they will be dealt with. I echo Norm's comments that we should be sensitive to the possible impacts to our EC colleagues and await further info.

Not Responsive

Thank you,

Graham

From: Fallows, Norm ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 02:11 PM
To: Grant, Alex J ENV:EX; Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Cc: ENV EEROS

Subject: RE: EC Environmental Response?

Yesterday over 5500 Fed employees got the word s.22 Most were
just told that their position was affected, or their program would be eliminated. It remains to be seen as to
how the cuts will impact our federal counterparts and us.

s.13

nf

From: Grant, Alex J ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 1:53 PM
To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Cc: ENV EEROS
Subject: EC Environmental Response?

Graham,

Has there been any discussion of this cut at your level?

I can find nothing in writing, but many implications, questions raised...

- Federal response duties – will our contact be EC Enforcement/Compliance Officers?
- REET co-chair for large spills?
- If this was a cost cutting measure, what is the risk of similar reduction of Provincial role in emergencies to cut provincial costs?

Alex Grant, B.Sc.
Environmental Emergency Response Officer
BCEnvironment

2080A Labieux Rd.
Nanaimo V9T 6J9
Phone: 250-751-3191
Pager: s.17
Fax: 250-751-3103

From: Fallows, Norm ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 1:30 PM

To: ENV EEROS

Subject: Not A Good Day

Just heard that they are getting rid of the Env Can Emergencies Section in Vancouver

Not Responsive

From: Fallows, Norm ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:12 PM
To: Grant, Alex J ENV:EX; Knox, Graham ENV:EX
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Subject: Re: EC Environmental Response?

Greetings,

At this time I have no info on the impacts to EC emergencies or how they will be dealt with. I echo Norm's comments that we should be sensitive to the possible impacts to our EC colleagues and await further info.

There are no pending cuts at the provincial level that I have been made aware of and based on the provincial budget and other information provided by government none are anticipated.

I can announce that we have been given permission to add an additional EERO in the lower mainland and consideration is currently being given to add another in Nanaimo. An offer has been made to the first person on the eligibility list from last year's EERO competition in Surrey, and I would anticipate the person starting in May. The position is currently set up as an auxiliary position until March 31, 2012 to speed up the approval process.

Thank you,

Graham

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From: Grant, Alex J ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 2:14 PM
To: Fallows, Norm ENV:EX; Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Cc: ENV EEROS
Subject: RE: EC Environmental Response?

131 Environmental Canada positions, including all Environmental response personnel lost countrywide.

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To: ENV EEROS

Subject: Not A Good Day

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Not Responsive

From: Oliphant, Gordon ENV:EX
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2012 12:01 PM
To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX; Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX; Sego, D'Arcy ENV:EX
Subject: fed emergency spill cuts.

Hi guys:

I don't know if you saw this article a couple days ago about major fed cuts. Affects Vancouver office heavily. Looks like heavier dependency on the province.

http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/budget-cuts-to-environment-canada-mean-left-to-clean-up-the-mess/article2402279/?utm_medium=Feeds%3A%20RSS%2FAtom&utm_source=Politics&utm_content=2402279

Cheers,
Gord

Not Responsive

-----Original Message-----

From: Hofweber, Jim E ENV:EX
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2012 8:50 AM
To: 'Dan Perrin'
Cc: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Subject: RE: Federal Cuts

Thanks Dan. Worth exploring. However when I discussed with s.22 Env Canada
s.22 the company line was "no reduction in federal response capability, we are
only moving a few scientists to Montreal". Never the less, its worth pursuing.

-----Original Message-----

From: Dan Perrin [<mailto:dan.perrin@perrinthorau.ca>]
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2012 9:03 PM
To: Hofweber, Jim E ENV:EX
Subject: Federal Cuts

s.13

Dan Perrin
Perrin, Thorau & Associates Ltd.
(250) 655-3431

Not Responsive

From: Paquin, Lisa C ENV:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 9:15 AM
To: Standen, Jim ENV:EX; Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Cc: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX; Hofweber, Jim E ENV:EX; Danks, Anthony ENV:EX
Subject: RE: Impact of federal cuts

Hi Jim and Graham,

I wanted to let you know that Anthony and I spoke with s.22 on Friday afternoon. I also know he was intending to follow-up directly with Jim Hofweber to communicate the impacts of the budge on the our relationship with EC PYR. The highlights he shared included Emergency Response being removed from s.22 He stressed the program would remain the same for prevention, program response and recover but it would be moving to Gatineau and Montreal for the coordination of science. s.22 also indicated the Coast Guard and Transport Canada have received increased funding and they will continue to be the "boots on the ground" in emergency response.s.22 office is working with PEP to ensure that the notification regime is updated to reflect the new contacts.

Cheers, Lisa

From: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 8:49 AM
To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Cc: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX; Hofweber, Jim E ENV:EX; Paquin, Lisa C ENV:EX
Subject: Impact of federal cuts

Graham,

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It would also be a good idea if you and I had a few minutes to catch up on what you are learning about the cuts.

Jim

Not Responsive

From: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 8:49 AM
To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Cc: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX; Hofweber, Jim E ENV:EX; Paquin, Lisa C ENV:EX
Subject: Impact of federal cuts

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From: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 10:53 AM
To: Gilmore, Dan GCPE:EX
Cc: Poss, Angie GCPE:EX; Paquin, Lisa C ENV:EX; Jackson, Vickie ENV:EX; Johnston, Karen GCPE:EX; Dolhaine, Daphne ENV:EX
Subject: RE: Impact of federal cuts

Hi Dan,

Here is what I just sent to Jim Standen on this issue...

Hi Jim,

I had a quick conversation with s.22 with Environment Canada (EC) on this yesterday afternoon. The following information was provided by s 22

- The 5 person Environmental Emergencies section in Vancouver is being entirely disbanded.
- Overall 23 EC environmental emergency staff across the country are being eliminated.
- All EC environmental emergency preparedness and response operations will be handled out of Montreal.
- There will also be a group in Gatineau that works strictly on policy and regulation.
- Travel budgets have also been reduced which will have an impact on the ability of remaining staff in Montreal to travel to British Columbia.
- All calls for spills in BC (and all of Canada) will be routed to staff in Montreal to address.
- They will participate in spill response incidents by conference call from Montreal with a focus on "coordination of science".
- In the event of a Spill of National Significance they would send people from Montreal to the incident.
- All exercise and regional planning for BC will be done out of Montreal.
- EC enforcement actions will continue to be provided by their enforcement staff in the region.
- They will address prevention issues and compliance promotion, including federal-provincial liaison from Daniel's compliance group in Vancouver.
- EC will have less involvement in recovery activities.
- Transition to Montreal will occur between May and end of June.
- 3 of the existing 5 staff in Vancouver will be losing their jobs and are currently seeking job opportunities (may be an excellent opportunity for the province to build capacity by finding opportunities for these experienced and well trained staff!).
- BC based weather reporting and other regional services will still be available through requests to Montreal.

As I mentioned yesterday we are developing an info note on the detailed impacts we see from this change. This represents not only a significant loss of capacity in BC, but the 23 person cut across the country means that EC will have little or no surge capacity in the event of a major spill to bring in responders from across the country. Vancouver EC staff handle many aspects of spills and share the current workload with our EEROs, therefore this represents a significant volume of work that our staff will now have to manage. Trying to provide the current level of service from

Montreal is not realistic. Basing their program in Montreal will significantly reduce EC's ability to meaningfully contribute and will present challenges in building and maintaining the strong relationships and familiarity required in emergency management. Current EC staff have found it challenging to respond to spills outside of their base in Vancouver, a move to Montreal will certainly increase these challenges many fold.

s.13

Thank you,

Graham

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Cc: Poss, Angie GCPE:EX; Paquin, Lisa C ENV:EX; Jackson, Vickie ENV:EX; Johnston, Karen GCPE:EX; Dolhaine, Daphne ENV:EX
Subject: FW: Impact of federal cuts
Importance: High

My understanding from media reports is that the feds in BC were not an operational unit but either way, MO is asking for a response points on this for QP. I made up some bullets based on Lisa's email but please feel free to add to or change.

Fleming on Rick Cluff:

Fleming: I think the devil is always in the details, Rick, and I think the concern here is about the time lines and about whether BC has the capacity right now to live up to the definition of so-called equivalency with the federal process. About 66% of the environmental reviews in British Columbia involve federal agencies now. The expertise around endangered species and fish habitat protection largely resides with the federal civil service, and I think what goes along with these announced changes to legislation in Ottawa by the federal Conservatives.... You know, the backdrop is the firing of hundreds of scientists and the gutting of most of the major environmental protection agencies -- including, by the way, for those of us living on the Pacific coast here.... It includes things like oil spill preparedness and response units. If you can believe it, the Vancouver office is going to be shut down. The incident command if there is an oil spill on our coastline will now be directed from Montreal.

- The federal oil spill oil spill preparedness and response units will work the same as they did before.

- Moving the science coordination section to Gatineau and Montreal will not affect the federal government's ability when it comes to dealing with oil spills.
- In addition, the Coast Guard and Transport Canada have received increased funding and they will continue to be the "boots on the ground" in emergency response.

From: Standen, Jim ENV:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 10:20 AM
To: Lake, Terry ENV:EX
Cc: Loiacono, Sabrina ENV:EX; Giddens, Kiel ENV:EX; Jackson, Vickie ENV:EX
Subject: FW: Impact of federal cuts

Minister,

We are in the process of gathering info and assessing the potential impacts of the federal budget. What we have been able to find out in relation to your questions about moving functions to Montreal are contained in the note below. Again, we continue to assess the impacts and will get you more detailed information once the picture becomes clearer.

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Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2012 9:15 AM
To: Standen, Jim ENV:EX; Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Cc: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX; Hofweber, Jim E ENV:EX; Danks, Anthony ENV:EX
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INFORMATION NOTE**

[Date]

File:

CLIFF/tracking #:

PREPARED FOR: TERRY LAKE, Minister of Environment

ISSUE: Impacts to BC Environmental Emergencies Program resulting from Environment Canada funding cuts.

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EC and the Provincial Environmental Emergencies Program (EEP) are legislated for protection of human health and the environment from oil spills and hazardous materials spills. Impacts from spills affect the economy both locally and provincially.

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DISCUSSION:

Environmental Emergency Program Management includes prevention, preparedness, and response and recovery activities. Response activities cannot be managed remotely. Preparation and accumulation of local knowledge are vital to a cohesive and coordinated response to emergencies. EC is considered to be the point of contact for Federal government agencies involved in emergency response. A 2008 evaluation of EC emergencies program stated that the program lacked an outreach strategy to ensure client awareness is achieved in area of prevention and preparedness.

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Contact:

[ADM]

[Div]

[Phone]

Alternate Contact:

[Name]

[Div/Region/Branch]

[Phone]

Prepared by:

[Name]

[Branch/Region]

[Phone]

[Insert additional rows if needed]

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DMO		

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Dir./Mgr.		
Author		

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[Name]

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Not Responsive

From: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2012 11:15 AM
To: Hofweber, Jim E ENV:EX
Subject: Info Note on EC

Hi Jim,

This is the note that Laurie and Norm drafted on this issue.



info_note_EC
UTS 2012 (DRAFT)

Graham Knox
Manager, Environmental Emergency Program
BC Ministry of Environment
P.O. Box 9342, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1
Phone: (250) 356-8383
Fax: (250) 953-3856
Email: Graham.Knox@gov.bc.ca
Website: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/eemp>

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Not Responsive

From: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX
Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2012 10:47 AM
To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Subject: FW: Information Note

FYI

From: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2012 3:45 PM
To: Fallows, Norm ENV:EX
Cc: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
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BC Ministry of Environment
P.O. Box 9342, Stn Prov Govt
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Cell: s.17

Fax: 250 387-8897

BC POLLUTION FREE

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[Date]

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From: Fallows, Norm ENV:EX
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2012 4:18 PM
To: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX
Cc: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Subject: RE: Information Note

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nf

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Cell: s.17

Fax: 250 387-8897

BC POLLUTION FREE

Not Responsive

From: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX
Sent: Friday, May 4, 2012 12:33 PM
To: ENV EEROS
Subject: May 2 Conference call minutes

Please review for corrections and action items.

Laurie Boyle
Emergency Planning Analyst
BC Ministry of Environment
P.O. Box 9342, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1
Tel: (250)387-8319
Cell: s.17

Fax: 250 387-8897

BC POLLUTION FREE

Environmental Emergencies Response Officers Conference Call Minutes

May 2nd, 2012
1:30 3:00 p.m.

Dial-in: s.17
Particip

Attendees: MOE: H Riedler, R Fuller, N Fallows, D Bull, T Sawchuk, E Stockerl, L Boyle, D Sego, G Knox, M Critchley

Environment Canada: N Russo

-
1. EC Update: EC cuts the 6 regional offices being consolidated to Montreal. A single bilingual Scientific/Technical coordination office on call 24/7. Office will only be involved in significant spills and provide advice to response. All regional contacts will be eliminated to create a one window approach using the PEP 1-800 #. Do not know if Gatineau office will be available for support. System to be in place by July 1, 2012. One staff member to remain in regulatory and compliance role. A money decision costs saving measure \$3.78 million. DFO still awaiting word of any cuts. CCG has increased budget for equipment only.

s.22

Not Responsive

i.

j.

k.

Not Responsive

l.

3.

Not Responsive

4.

Not Responsive

\\archer\s40007\wanshare\environmental emergency response officers\committees internal\eero conference calls\2012 agenda & minutes\01march eero minutes.docx

Not Responsive

-----Original Message-----

From: Riedler, Harold ENV:EX

Sent: Friday, May 4, 2012 3:48 PM

To: ENV EEROS

Subject: May 3 2012 Western Canada Marine Response Council User's Group Meeting Notes by H. Riedler

May 4, 2012

Some of the information presented within these meeting notes are not intended for external discussion.

Harold Riedler, BC MOE SEERO attended the May 3, 2012 Western Canada Marine Response Corporation User's Group Meeting and noted the following discussion.

The following are highlights as presented during the meeting.

Not Responsive

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Monitoring and adjusting to federal budget impacts i.e. EC, CCG, TC.

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

s.13

- A reality that hinders west coast up-front capacity for response to spills is the lack of commercial vessels that could be redirected for spill response use. In the Gulf, there are large fleets that currently service the oil rigs that are easily redirected for spill response assignments. It could take up to a week to acquire a barge on the west coast, for example, to be deployed for interim recovery and storage of spilled oil. There are virtually no vessels that are designated and/or in a position to be acquired for spill response on the west coast.

Not Responsive

Meeting concluded.

Harold Riedler

Senior Emergency Response Officer
Coastal Region - Surrey Office
Environmental Emergencies Program
Ministry of Environment
Phone: 604-582-5278
harold.riedler@gov.bc.ca

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

-----Original Message-----

From: Sego, D'Arcy ENV:EX

Sent: Friday, May 11, 2012 11:49 AM

To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX; Grant, Alex J ENV:EX; Enick, Oana V ENV:EX; McGuire, Jennifer ENV:EX; Oliphant, Gordon ENV:EX

Subject: Notes from 1000 tonne Debrief

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Challenges

- o The absence of Transport Canada & Environment Canada was evident and cause for concern if this was not an exercise.

s.13

- o The points that fell under cons were minimal with the exception of no Environment Canada or Transport Canada representation. Overall it was an excellent exercise.

s.22

Concern - no Federal presence in the environmental unit. Their presence would be required to make decisions around the federal species. The REET was also not present. Environment Canada, Nick Russo was present as an observer, but not as a participant. In this exercise the CCG was the window to Environment Canada and Transport Canada. The CCG used its powers under the Canada Shipping Act to sign-off for the use of COREXIT. It was unclear if this would satisfy the needs for federal signoff in a real event.

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

- Internally we recognized a lack of both provincial and federal technical specialists in the planning group. Freeing staff up for exercises is always a challenge we are championing internally.

Not Responsive

Regan's,
D'Arcy Sego

Renowned N.S. oil spill expert given job notice

CBC News

Posted: May 28, 2012 9:07 PM AT

Last Updated: May 28, 2012 11:12 PM AT

Copyright

Not Responsive

From: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 10:56 AM
To: ENV EEROS; Vander Steen, Benjamin ENV:EX; Hofweber, Jim E ENV:EX
Subject: Oil Spill Expertise Eroding

Greetings,

Attached is a link to another article on federal cuts and their impacts to oil spill response and preparedness. Kenneth Lee, who is mentioned in the linked article below, is a world renowned expert in oil spill research and was recently involved in the future of chemical dispersant review conducted by the U.S. government in response to the unprecedented use of chemical dispersant in the Gulf of Mexico / Deepwater Horizon incident. This coupled with other announced cuts to federal spill related programs (Ex: Environment Canada's Environmental Emergency group and Health Canada's CBNRE cuts Brian Beech's program here in BC) are diminishing the available response resources and will limit response managers access to critical scientific expertise when making response decisions in the future.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/story/2012/05/28/ns-lee-workforce-adjustment.html>

Thanks,

Graham Knox
Manager, Environmental Emergency Program
BC Ministry of Environment
P.O. Box 9342, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1
Phone: (250) 356-8383
Fax: (250) 953-3856
Email: Graham.Knox@gov.bc.ca
Website: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/eemp>

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CBC News

Posted: May 28, 2012 9:07 PM AT

Last Updated: May 28, 2012 11:12 PM AT

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Not Responsive

From: Fallows, Norm ENV:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2012 11:22 AM
To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Subject: RE: Oil Spill Expertise Eroding

Out of curiosity, has Terry Lake or others had a discussion with Peter Kent or other s on the federal side regarding Env Canada's ER situation using the info we provided? I see that the prov opposition and prov government are considering putting pressure on the feds regarding CCG SAR Kitsilano.

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Phone: (250) 356-8383
Fax: (250) 953-3856
Email: Graham.Knox@gov.bc.ca
Website: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/eemp>

Not Responsive

From: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 10:32 AM
To: Fitz, Chelsea ENV:EX
Cc: Hofweber, Jim E ENV:EX
Subject: Re: Phone Call from s.22

Thanks Chelsea!

I just gave him a call and left him my cell number.

Graham

From: Fitz, Chelsea ENV:EX
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2012 10:07 AM
To: Knox, Graham ENV:EX
Subject: Phone Call from s.22

Hi Graham,

s.22 from Environment Canada called looking to speak with both you and Jim regarding the 2012 budget. Please call s.22 when you can. I told s.22 you were s.22 and s.22 said it could wait until then if you weren't about to call s.22 before that. His number is s.17

Thank you,
Chelsea

Critchley, Melanie ENV:EX

Not Responsive

From: Hogg, Grant [NCR] [<mailto:Grant.Hogg@ec.gc.ca>]

Sent: Friday, May 4, 2012 6:13 AM

To: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX

Cc: Davies, Scott (CON); Romanko, Wade [Yel]; Knox, Graham ENV:EX; Lesieur, Marc-Etienne [NCR]; Bryant, Tanya [NCR]

Subject: RE: Western Canada EE Interagency Committee

Hi Laurie,

My contact info is below. Let me know when you folks have plan another Committee teleconference and I'll be pleased to participate.

Grant

Grant Hogg

Director/Directeur

Environmental Emergencies Division/

Direction des Urgences Environnementales

Environment Canada/Environnement Canada

819-953-0607

Grant.Hogg@ec.gc.ca

From: Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX [<mailto:Laurie.Boyle@gov.bc.ca>]

Sent: May 2, 2012 7:00 PM

To: Hogg, Grant [NCR]

Cc: 'Davies, Scott (CON)'; Romanko, Wade [Yel]; Knox, Graham ENV:EX

Subject: RE: Western Canada EE Interagency Committee

Grant,

I am looking forward to working with you, can you please forward me your full contact information.

Laurie

From: Romanko, Wade [Yel] [<mailto:Wade.Romanko@EC.GC.CA>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 2, 2012 1:03 PM

To: Hogg, Grant [NCR]

Cc: Davies, Scott (CON); Boyle, Laurie F ENV:EX

Subject: Western Canada EE Interagency Committee

Grant,

Scott Davies (Manitoba Conservation) is the chair of the Western Canada EE Interagency Committee.

Scott – Grant Hogg (Director of the EC Emergencies Program) is the new contact for Environment Canada for the working group.

Wade Romanko

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Wade Romanko

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