CITY OF HOMER 1 2 HOMER, ALASKA 3 Aderhold 4 **RESOLUTION 23-005** 5 AN RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA 6 7 SUPPORTING THE RECERTIFICATION OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM 8 SOUND REGIONAL CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL BY THE UNITED 9 STATES COAST GUARD THROUGH PWSRCAC RECERTIFICATION 10 DOCKET USCG-2022-0707 11 WHEREAS, The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (PWSRCAC) 12 13 was created in 1989, and has since maintained its certification through the United States Coast 14 Guard (USCG) in 1990 as mandated by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990; and 15 16 WHEREAS, USCG requires the recertification of a Regional Citizens' Advisory Council for 17 Prince William Sound annually with the third year recertification requiring comments from the 18 public; and 19 20 WHEREAS, PWSRCAC was created to provide citizens a voice in promoting the environmentally safe operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal and associated tankers; and 21 22 23 WHEREAS, The City of Homer, Alaska, has been a member entity of the PWSRCAC since 24 its creation; and 25 WHEREAS, The City of Homer and its residents experienced the effects of the Exxon 26 Valdez oil spill; and 27 28 29 WHEREAS, PWSRCAC works with industry and regulators to ensure response readiness, evaluate risks, and propose solutions to problems that arise; and 30 31 32 WHEREAS, PWSRCAC maintains two weather buoys in Port Valdez to improve understanding of weather conditions that could affect marine vessel safety and movement of 33 spilled oil that could affect environmentally sensitive sites in the area, and PWSRCAC shares 34 data collected by the buoys with the Alaska Ocean Observing System and the National Oceanic 35 36 and Atmospheric Administration; and 37 WHEREAS, PWSRCAC is monitoring efforts to address the substantial tank vent damage 38 that occurred at the Valdez Marine Terminal in February and March 2022, and the subsequent 39 40 work by Alyeska Pipeline Services Company, and state and federal regulators to investigate the

incident, repair the vents, and prevent recurrence; and

41 42 WHEREAS, PWSRCAC has asked the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to take steps to ensure the secondary containment systems around crude oil storage tanks at the Valdez Marine Terminal will prevent water contamination following investigations that demonstrated there were cracks and holes in the liner, and PWSRCAC is contracting with a geotechnical engineering expert to identify non-destructive methods to evaluate secondary containment liners; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC continues long-term environmental monitoring, initiated in 1993, to monitor hydrocarbons and their effects in the region and sensitive species that could be impacted by an oil spill or oil spill response efforts; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC monitors hydrocarbon spill drills, exercises, and training events as well as responses to actual incidents; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC reviews and comments on changes to oil spill prevention and response plans that cover the Valdez Marine Terminal and tankers that transit Prince William Sound; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC sponsored a study of devices used to deploy a messenger line, the first step in setting up a tow line between a rescue tug and tanker in distress, and conducted field trials to test various devices to develop a set of recommendations that will be shared with industry and regulators; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC commissioned the Alaska Vocational Technical Center Marine Training Center to develop a ship handling course specific to Alaska with scenarios based on real activities and using high-resolution data; and

WHEREAS, PWSRCAC commissioned a report documenting the current state and history of developing sensitive area protection strategies for the Copper River Delta and Flats region; and

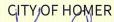
WHEREAS, PWSRCAC has proven to be critically important in the continued environmentally safe operation of the Valdez Marine Terminal and its associated tankers and is becoming ever more important as facilities and equipment age.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska, supports the recertification of PWSRCAC by the USCG as the Regional Citizens' Advisory Council for Prince William Sound and entities affected by the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA, this 9th day of January, 2023.

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90 ATTEST:
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93 MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK
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96 Fiscal note: N/A



KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

