
Industry Technical Advisory Committee

Evaluation of the Use of Chemical Dispersants for Oil Spill Response

Mary Landry, RADM, USCG Retired
September 27, 2017

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

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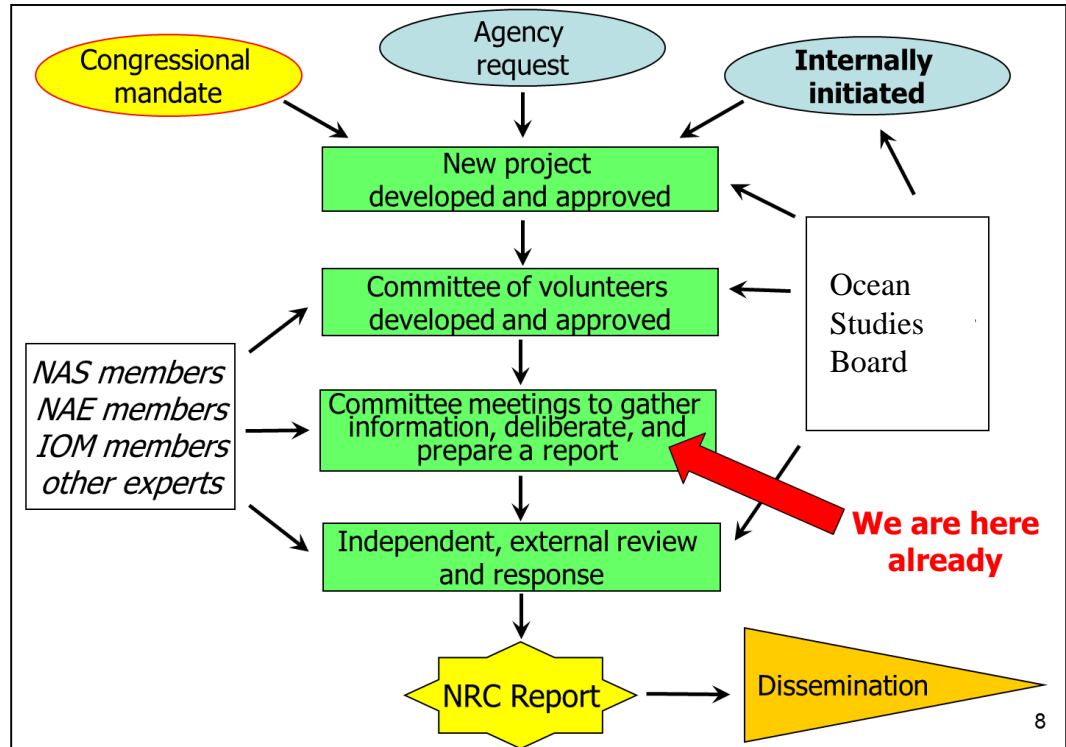
Unique strengths of our studies:

- Stature of Academies' memberships
- Ability to get the very best to serve
- “Pro bono” nature of committee service
- Special relationship to the government
- Quality control procedures
- Independence, scientific objectivity, balance



Study Process

- Study Initiation
- Committee Formation
- Committee Deliberation and Information Gathering
- Report Writing and Revision
- External Report Review
- Response to Review
- Committee and Academies Sign-off
- Report Release and Dissemination



Abbreviated Statement of Task

This study will assess the effects and efficacy of dispersants as an oil spill response tool through review and evaluation of research reports and results. The study will evaluate trade-offs associated with dispersant use, in part through use or review of net environmental benefit analyses conducted for past oil spills. This evaluation will include comparison of chemically dispersed oil with the fate and effects of untreated oil. Specifically, the study will:

1. Assess the state of our knowledge about dispersant effectiveness and the fate of untreated oil, chemical dispersants, and chemically dispersed oil;
2. Evaluate and summarize research on toxicity of chemical dispersant formulations, chemically dispersed oil, and untreated oil at realistic environmental exposure levels;
3. Compare the benefits and limitations of dispersant application to the use of other clean-up methods;
4. Compare the relative human health risks;
5. Identify the research protocols and standards that would: i) increase the applicability of lab-based measurements to the field and ii) improve the comparability of research findings from different laboratories;
6. Assess the adequacy of the existing information to support risk-based decision-making.

Committee on the Evaluation of the Use of Chemical Dispersants in Oil Spill Response

Committee Roster

RADM Mary E. Landry, *Chair* – (Retired) United States Coast Guard, Belmont, MA

Dr. E. Eric Adams – Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge

Dr. Adriana Bejarano – Research Planning, Inc., Columbia, SC

Dr. Michel Boufadel – New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark

Dr. Gina Coelho – Consultant, Grand Prairie, TX

Dr. Thomas S. Coolbaugh – ExxonMobil, Spring, TX

Dr. Cortis Cooper – (Retired) Chevron Corporation, Kensington, CA

Dr. Dominic Di Toro (NAE) – University of Delaware, Newark

Dr. Julia Gohlke – Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg

Dr. Terry Hazen – University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Dr. Kenneth Lee – Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Dr. Steve Murawski – University of South Florida, St. Petersburg

Dr. W. Scott Pegau – Prince William Sound Science Center, Cordova, AK

Dr. Ron Tjeerdema – University of California, Davis

Dr. David Valentine – University of California, Santa Barbara

Dr. Helen White – Haverford College, Pennsylvania

Study Work Plan and Timeline

Work Plan

- The committee will meet five times. Four meetings will include public sessions to gather information.
- The fourth meeting will include a half day workshop on the possible public health consequences of dispersant use.
- 6 months of the project will be reserved for dissemination activities

Timeline

- Meeting #1: June 13-15, 2017, Washington, D.C.
- Meeting #2: August 7-8, 2017, Washington, D.C.
- **Meeting #3: October 25-27, St. Petersburg, Florida (TENTATIVE)**
- **Meeting #4: Mid- January (TENTATIVE)**
- **Meeting #5: Mid-March (TENTATIVE)**