



REGIONAL RESPONSE TEAM IV

United States
Coast Guard

Environmental
Protection Agency

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Agriculture

Department of
Commerce

Department of
Defense

Department of
Energy

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Health and Human
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General Services
Administration

Nuclear Regulatory
Commission

Tennessee Valley
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Alabama

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State of
Georgia

Commonwealth of
Kentucky

State of
Mississippi

State of
North Carolina

State of
South Carolina

State of
Tennessee

September 7, 2005

Regional Response Team Region 4 Approval for Use of Solidifiers during Hurricane Katrina Response.

Based on a telephonic request from the Mobile, Alabama Command Post for Hurricane Katrina the RRT4 conducted an incident specific consultation to consider the approval for use of solidifiers.

A solidifier use application was submitted to the RRT and was based on the ongoing efforts concerning the RRT's pre-approval process. The RRT members from the EPA, USCG, DOI, DOC, and the states of Alabama and Mississippi were faxed copies of the application for consideration.

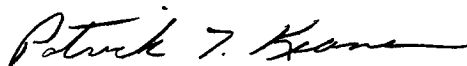
A telephonic conference call proved difficult based on the numerous meetings and activities associated with the hurricane response efforts and as a result the consultation was conducted via e-mail. The only exception was that the Scientific Support Coordinator conducted telephonic consultation with the state representatives.

Informal consultations were conducted with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service via their respective Departments. Information provided was forwarded to the SSC.

As a result of the consultation with the above mentioned members the approval was granted in accordance with the Solidifier Use Application. The following RRT representatives were consulted and concurred with the approval:

Capt Mark O'Malley, USCG D7
Matt Taylor, EPA Region 4
Brad Benggio, NOAA SSC, DOC Region 4
Greg Hogue, DOI Region 4
Bruce Freeman, State of Alabama
Eric Dear, State of Mississippi

Any questions concerning this process can be directed to Pat Keane, USCG, at (305) 415-6871.



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Hurricane Katrina Response
Mobile, AL command post; USCG Gulf Strike Team
For AL, MS -

Solidifier Use Application to RRT4

The Unified Command has requested the approval to use solidifiers as listed on the USEPA product schedule if deemed by the response to offer benefit in recovery of released oil and sheens. The use will be in accordance with the RRT4/CRRT draft preauthorization document for use of solidifiers. Limitations for use include the following:

- 1) treatment volume of no more than 500 gallons of oil
- 2) application method and rate to be in accordance with manufacturer recommendations
- 3) use will insure that all solidifier and treated oil is constantly and effectively contained, monitored and recovered.
- 4) Use will not be authorized in areas where conditions in #3 cannot be met, or where any wildlife or critical habitat issues exist.
- 5) Application will only be authorized by trained and educated individuals as certified by the manufacture and overseen by an observer from NOAA, USCG, or State as prescribed by the Incident Command
- 6) All use will be documented and include location and conditions of use, estimated amount and type of oil to be treated, amount, type and form of solidifier applied, estimated amount of solidifier and treated oil recovered, disposal of all recovered material.
- 7) Any problem with use will be documented and reported to the planning section ASAP
- 8) Use of solidifier in contained form such as booms, pillows, or socks is authorized for longer term sheen collection such as continuous sheens from submerged vessels, etc as long as material is secure in place, regularly monitored, and recovered once complete.
- 9) Results and follow-up consultation of solidifier use outcome for purposes of ESA and EFH with USFWS and NMFS requirements will be provided as necessary.
- 10) Use will be continuously reviewed by planning and discontinued if use criteria is not complied with or concerns for any natural resources is identified.