



16601
November 21, 2007

Immediate Response Spill Technologies
Attn: Tom Downs
11760 Commonwealth Drive
Louisville, Kentucky 40299

Dear Mr. Downs:

I am writing in response to your letter of November 2, 2007, concerning the use of solidifiers on oil spills. Regional Response Team IV (RRT IV) and the RRT III have approved the policy for the limited use of solidifiers as listed and defined in the National Contingency Plan product Schedule under subpart J. Solidifiers must be used in accordance with each respective Regions authorization policy (enclosures 1 and 2).

With respect to your desire to incorporate the RRT IV and RRT III policy into the appropriate Area Contingency Plan (ACP), the U.S. Coast Guard does not maintain the ACPs in the Inland Zone. Establishment and maintenance of this plan is the responsibility of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); therefore, I recommend you contact the U.S. EPA to request this action.

In addition, you requested concurrence from U.S. Coast Guard Sector Ohio Valley to use solidifiers in our area of responsibility (AOR). My AOR incorporates states not listed in either RRT IV or RRT III, e.g. OH, MO, IL and IN. Since RRT IV and RRT III do not cover my complete AOR, I cannot authorize the use of solidifiers in States that are in Regions other than those where a pre-authorization has been approved.

Regarding your formal notice that the appropriate personnel in my Sector have been briefed on the RRT IV and RRT III pre-authorization solidifier policy, I am aware that CIAgent Solutions has conducted such briefings. I understand it is your plan to annually visit my units to ensure Coast Guard personnel are fully aware of your product. My staff will work with you to ensure the training is coordinated.

Please contact my representative, LT Derek Beatty, at 502-779-5413, if you have additional questions or comments related to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. M. Nguyen".

H. M. Nguyen
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Sector Ohio Valley

Enclosures: (1) RRT IV Pre-Authorization Policy for Use of Solidifiers
(2) RRT III Pre-Authorization Policy for Use of Solidifiers