

Date: October 28, 1998

OSPR Schedules Public Hearings Re: DFG In-Situ Burning Policy

CONTACT:

Contact: Dana Michaels, 916-327-9948; or Yvonne Addassi (324-7626)

SACRAMENTO -- The Department of Fish and Game's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) has scheduled six public workshops to inform the public and seek comments regarding the proposed draft California Policy for the use of In-Situ Burning in Waters of the State.

In-Situ burning, the controlled process of burning spilled oil in place, provides the oil spill response community with an additional tool for addressing large spills at sea. In-Situ burning provides a potential process for effectively removing spilled oil and at the same time reducing storage problems associated with mechanical recovery and potential environmental effects associated with dispersant use.

Government Code Section 8670.28(g) requires the Administrator of the OSPR to develop a decision-making document for the use of in-situ burning to address oil spills within the marine waters of the State. This document can only be made final upon completion of a public review process. The draft California Policy for the use of In-Situ Burning in Waters Off the State sets policies and outlines procedures on how an in-situ burning use decision will be made. This policy only addresses the on-water use of in-situ burning as a possible response to a marine oil spill. This policy does not address the use of in-situ burning of oil on land or the in-situ burning of substances other than oil.

No decisions will be made at these workshops regarding the adoption of this draft policy. The purpose of these workshops is to provide the public a forum where questions can be answered and concerns may be raised.

In-Situ Burn Policy Workshop Schedule

Wednesday, October 28, 1998 -- 7:00 p.m. First Floor Hearing Room
Woodley Island Marina
Eureka, California

Friday, October 30, 1998 -- 10:00 a.m. Bay Model Visitors Center
2100 Bridgeway
Sausalito, California

Tuesday, November 10, 1998 -- 10:00 a.m. Port of Long Beach
925 Harbor Plaza
Long Beach, California

Thursday, November 12, 1998 -- 10:00 a.m. University of California, Santa Barbara
Lobero Room
Lower Level University Center
Santa Barbara California

Friday, November 13, 1998 -- 10:00 a.m. California State University, Monterey Bay
Monterey, California

Friday, November 20, 1998 -- 1:00 p.m. Office of Spill Prevention and Response
Third Floor Conference Room
1700 K Street
Sacramento, California

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Interested persons should submit written comments to Ms. Yvonne Najah Addassi, Response Technology Development Unit, OSPR, P.O. Box 944209, Sacramento, CA 94244-2090. Comments can also be faxed to Ms. Addassi's attention at (916) 324-8829, or transmitted via e-mail to [yaddassi@ospr.dfg.ca.gov](mailto:yaddassi@ospr.dfg.ca.gov) if so desired (attach files in Word 6.0 / Windows 95 or compatible format). Submittal of comments in electronic format will permit a more timely and accurate review of issues and proposals.

**All comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on December 4, 1998.**  
**For additional information, contact Ms. Addassi at (916) 324-7626.**

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