

THIS IS A DRILL/ THIS IS A DRILL

Media release

Wednesday, August 8, 2013

UNIFIED COMMAND APPROVES USE OF DISPERSANT

Unified Command has received approval for the use of dispersants during the Pillar Point Incident response.

This decision was made in consultation with the Regional Response Team IX, the State of California, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Coast Guard, in addition to consultation with Monterey Bay and other local authorities.

The deployment of dispersants will promote the rapid dispersion of oil into the surrounding water column. Dispersants will be released at the incident site over a period of 24 hours.

Approval has been granted as the use of dispersant meets the pre-approval zone criteria, set by the State of California's dispersants use plan and by Regional Response Team IX.

This incident meets the following conditions of those plans:

- the application of dispersants in offshore waters (three to 200 miles from the coastline) and not inside a national marine sanctuary;
- the use of dispersants provides a net environmental benefit for species at risk from this oil spill and species of special concern;

-application can be completed safely and in accordance with standard marine and aviation practices.

-ENDS-

For additional information, contact the Joint Information Center on 2722 or online at <https://www.piersystem.com/go/site/5970/>

Unified Command members include:

U.S. Coast Guard

Alaska Tanker Company

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Monterey County of California

BP