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From: O'Brien'sRM Regulatory Compliance Division [jeremy.kelley@obriensrm.ccsend.com] on behalf of Kelley, Jeremy
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2009 9:03 AM
To: Kelley, Jeremy
Subject: Environmental Update SPCC Rule Delayed



Environmental Update - SPCC Rule Delayed

Delay of the effective date for Oil Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) requirements that were finalized in December 2008

Washington, D.C. - March. 30, 2009 - EPA is delaying the effective date of the final rule that amends the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) regulations promulgated in the Federal Register on Dec. 5, 2008, in accordance with the memorandum from the Office of Management and Budget entitled, "Implementation of Memorandum Concerning Regulatory Review" (M-09-08, January 21, 2009).

The amendments will now become effective on January 14, 2010. Additionally, EPA is requesting public comment on whether a further delay of the effective date may be warranted.

The Dec. 5, 2008, amendments to the SPCC rule clarified regulatory requirements, tailored requirements to particular industry sectors, and streamlined certain requirements for facility owners or operators subject to the rule. With these changes, EPA expects to encourage greater compliance with the SPCC regulations, thus resulting in increased protection of human health and the environment.

The amendments did not remove any regulatory requirement for owners or operators of facilities in operation before August 16, 2002, to develop, implement, and maintain an SPCC plan in accordance with the SPCC regulations then in effect. Such facilities are still required to maintain their plans during the interim until the applicable date for revising and implementing their plans under the new amendments.

Information on the SPCC Rule: <http://www.epa.gov/emergencies/content/spcc/index.htm>

Contact our Regulatory Compliance Division for more information.
Call (281) 320-9796 or email compliance@obriensrm.com

U.S. Proposes to Slash Harmful Ship Emissions Along the Nation's Coastlines to Save Lives

Washington, D.C. - March 30, 2009 - The United States took a critical step towards protecting Americans from harmful ship emissions by becoming the first country to ask the International Maritime Organization to create an emissions control area (ECA) around the nation's coastline, the EPA announced today at a joint news conference with the Coast Guard and New Jersey elected officials.

According to the EPA's data, the creation of an ECA would save up to 8,300 American and Canadian lives every year by 2020 by imposing stricter standards on oil tankers and other large ships that spew harmful emissions into the air near coastal communities where tens of millions of Americans live, work, play and learn. The United States is proposing a 230-mile buffer zone around the nation's coastline in order to provide air quality benefits as far inland as Kansas. [Read More](#)

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