

May 12, 2010

Dear Parliamentarians/Elected Officials;

In the aftermath of the oil rig fire and crude oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, CPPI¹ and its members take this opportunity to assure you that our collective mission is to handle refined petroleum products in a manner that is safe and reflects industry best practices. Precautionary measures implemented by refiners and distributors of petroleum products are aimed at protecting both citizens and the environment. They are backstopped by emergency preparedness plans and response capability that are integrated with community awareness programs and emergency response plans. All of this is underpinned by a strong commitment to environment, health and safety principles that prioritize risk and require implementation of cost-effective management practices.

CPPI's Driver Certification Program is key example. This CPPI initiative aims to ensure the safe handling of petroleum products, and restricts driver access to loading and unloading facilities to only those drivers with appropriate and current training. CPPI has developed and regularly updates relevant guidance materials to support driver certification. More information on the Driver Certification program is available at www.cppi.ca/index_e.php?p=7.

Another CPPI guidance document is the ***Land Transportation Emergency Response Guideline for Petroleum Spills*** that outlines response scope, emergency response code practices, response time guidelines, response equipment, and personnel capability requirements. This document can be accessed at http://www.cppi.ca/userfiles/file/LTER_Guidelines_2008.pdf

CPPI members actively work with local communities to implement emergency spill response plans and pre-position equipment to ensure rapid response in the unlikely event of a spill. Examples of this are the Chemical Valley Emergency Coordination Organization (Sarnia), and ongoing work in east Edmonton, where a cluster of refineries is located.

In addition, there is a network of four (4) industry funded and operated response organizations that provide marine oil spill response capabilities. This network is the result of extensive consultations and negotiations among the petroleum and shipping industries, environmental groups, the Canadian Coast Guard, and Environment Canada. This regime provides rapid response capability by having full-time employees, trained contractors, state of the art response equipment pre-positioned in response centres, and predetermined response strategies developed in partnership with government agencies.

¹ CPPI members: Bitumar Inc., Chevron Canada Limited, Husky Energy Inc., Imperial Oil Limited (Products and Chemicals Division), North Atlantic Refining Limited, NOVA Chemicals (Canada) Ltd., Parkland Income Fund, Shell Canada Products, Suncor Energy Products Inc., and Ultramar Ltd.

Each response centre can achieve increase response capability through the use of its inventory and the cascading of additional equipment and response personnel from other response centres. Response contractors supply additional response personnel, services and equipment as needed.

The network of four certified response organizations is funded and operated by the private sector. Network costs are borne by the petroleum and shipping industries that require the services of a certified Response Organization. See link below for network coverage.

http://www.ecrc.ca/en/can_ro/gar.asp

I hope this information is useful in confirming to you the importance CPPI and its members place on the safe handling of refined petroleum products and effective emergency response capability, and their ongoing commitment to protect Canadian citizens and the environment. Please feel free to contact CPPI if you would like additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PS Boag". The letters are cursive and fluid, with a large loop under the "g".

Peter Boag
President