
Russia-Norway Cooperation on Oil Spill Response

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U.S.-Russia Energy Working Group on Oil Spill Prevention and Response
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Norway - facts & figures

Geographical features:

- Distance north - south: 1752 km
- Coastline: approx. 82 000 km
- Climatic variations from arctic in the north to coastal in the south.

Shipping industry:

- 7th largest fleet, approx. 45 mill DWT, (approx. 4,4% of total world fleet, 1999).

Petroleum industry:

- Daily production rate: approx. 3 mill. barrels (90 % exported)
- Three main production areas.





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The Pollution Control Act (1981)

Main principles - acute pollution:

- “Polluter pays”.
- Obligation to notify.
- Emergency response system.
- Contingency planning requirements.
- Obligation to respond.
- Obligation to provide assistance.
- Obligation to provide information.





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Risk based assessment

- Assessment based on typical scenarios.
- Prediction of oil slick spreading and environmental impact in model.
- Effects of simulated response efforts in oil spreading model.
- Net environmental benefit analysis is used for selecting response strategy and objectives for the simulated oil spill response.



Private, Municipal and Governmental Contingency

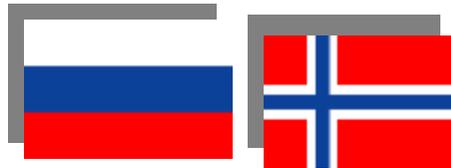
- **Private contingency system:** The industry itself shall provide for a contingency system against acute pollution from its own activity, i.e. the oil industry.
- **Municipal contingency system:** Municipalities shall provide for the necessary contingency system to combat acute pollution which may occur within the municipality itself, and which are not covered by the polluters own contingency system, i.e. shipping and transport of oil by ship.
- **Objective of governmental contingency:** The state shall provide for a contingency system against major incidents of acute pollution which are not covered by municipal or private contingency systems.

Organization of Russian-Norwegian Cooperation for Maritime Safety and Oil Spill Prevention in the Barents area

Captain Mikhail Ivanovich Suslin
Director General Kirsten Ullbæk Selvig

Monitoring and pre-voyage reporting
system

Oil spill prevention and response



Mandate of the steering committee

- To elaborate an agreement between The Russian Federation and Norway on monitoring and pre-voyage reporting systems for oil transports and towing operations in the Barents area.
- To prepare a revision of the existing agreement of cooperation on oil spill prevention and response.
- To promote cooperation within regional and local authorities in the Barents area
- To consider other ongoing processes on similar topics in waters adjacent to the Barents area
- To consider other measures to further bilateral cooperation within the scope of the common understanding, including initiating new projects
- To consider the reports of the working groups

Mandate for the group on monitoring and pre-voyage reporting system

- To recommend a mutual monitoring and pre-voyage reporting system for oil transport towing operations in the Barents area.
- To identify areas for bilateral tug boat co-operation
- To focus on cooperation with regional and local authorities in the Barents area



Mandate for the group on oil spill prevention and response

1. To revise the existing agreement of cooperation on oil spill prevention and response.
2. To complete ongoing project "Contingency-plan Murmansk"..
3. To launch "Shoreline-survey and contingency planning for Arkhangelsk."
4. To launch "Training and exercise on oil spill contingency in Arkhangelsk/Murmansk"
5. To launch "Survey on physical and chemical behaviour of Russian crude oils".
6. To assess the existing and probable near future oil traffic volume and assess the risk of oil spill.
7. To cooperate in developing various types of oil-spill equipment



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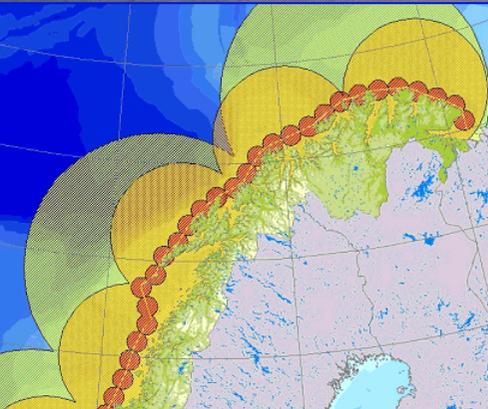
Results and expectations

- The cooperation is met with great interest as well as high expectations in the Norwegian Public
- The Russia-Norway cooperation represents an important step ahead in reducing the risk for oil spills in the sensitive environment of the Barents Sea





Characteristics in the development of Norwegian oil spill prevention



- Extension of the territorial limits from 4 to 12 n.m.
- Establish Vessel Traffic System in northern waters
- Establish coastal waterways and areas of separation in northern waters
- A bilateral pre-voyage reporting agreement on shipment of hazardous cargo/dangerous goods with Russia
- Monitoring and organising tugboat capacity in northern waters
- Development of criterias concerning places and ports of refuge
- Development of emergency discharge of vessels



Interspill 2004 in Trondheim, Norway



- The international conference on oil spill prevention and response, “Interspill 2004”, will be held in Trondheim in 2004.
- Norway welcomes this opportunity to host the next bilateral U.S.-Russia Oil Spill Prevention and Response Workshop in conjunction with the conference.



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Thank you for your attention!

