

10 March 2021

Attn: Hawaii DOH SOSC

Subject: Submittal Requesting Authorization for Decanting Separated Water from Skimmed Oil & Water at the Hotel Pier Spill Response Site. Incident Case No: 20200602-1345

Decanting is the process of draining off recovered water from portable tanks, internal tanks, collection wells or other storage containers to increase the available storage capacity of recovered oil. When decanting is conducted properly most of the water can be removed from the collected petroleum. It is recognized that decanting of oily water mixtures is a common procedure used during a spill response incident. Hawaii understands the value of decanting as a disposal consideration. Oily water mixtures collected by Oil Spill Response Collection & Skimmer may utilize installed holding tanks or active Oil Water Separators for separation of oil from water. Water recovered by this method can then be discharged back into a monitored containment, specified for the purpose, that is within the larger spill affected containment boomed area. During an emergency response, it will likely be necessary for response contractors or a responsible party to request from the Federal and/or State OSC authority to decant while recovering oil so that response operations do not cease or become impaired. The request, decision and permission to decant must be documented. Such actions are considered and in appropriate circumstances authorized by the FOSC and/or the SOSC. In this case only the SOSC authorization is required for decanting activities in state waters. (Reference: the Hawaii Area Contingency Plan, Version 2019.0, Operations Section 3000-20)

In accordance with the above referenced protocols and in accordance with the well exercised practice, The U.S. Navy requests permission to decant separated water from skimmed oil/water mixtures at spill response, investigation, and mitigation activities, ongoing at Hotel Pier in Pearl Harbor. This request is being conducted on behalf of the U.S. Navy.

Respectfully,

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DC Carter

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Not Concur

3/11/21
Date

Ramon Mendoza, State On-Scene Coordinator
Hawaii Department of Health, Hazard Evaluation & Emergency Response Office

* Concurrence contingent on submittal of Waste Management Disposal Plan for decanting as required under the Hawaii Area Contingency Plan