



Vessel Response Plan

Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority Woods Hole, Massachusetts

Horsley Witten Group, Inc. (HW) completed a Vessel Response Plan (VRP) on behalf of the Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority. The VRP covers nine vessels currently owned and operated by the Steamship Authority.

Section 701(c) of the Coast Guard and Marine Transportation Act of 2004 (2004 Act) amends Sections 311(a) and (j) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to require the preparation and submission of oil discharge response plans for nontank vessels. HW prepared this plan in accordance with the suggested format of Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular (NVIC) 01-05, and 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 155, Subpart D - Response Plans. The 2004 Act requires preparation and planning to respond, to the maximum extent practicable, to a Worst Case Discharge (WCD) and to a substantial threat of discharge of oil.

HW completed the VRP to include details regarding training, equipment testing, periodic unannounced drills, and response actions of the persons on the vessel to be carried out under this plan. It also included a Chain of Command structure and internal and external notification procedures and contact information to be followed in the event of a release. Specific detail was required for notification of shipboard and shore-based personnel.

Potential mitigation procedures were established to reduce the impact of a release. Specific procedures were established for many scenarios, including; Transfer System Leak, Tank Overflow, Suspected Leak from Cargo Tank, Fuel Tank, or Hull, Procedures to Prevent Discharge or Threat of Discharge in the Event of Grounding or Stranding, or Procedures to Prevent Discharge or Threat of Discharge in the Event of Collision, etc.

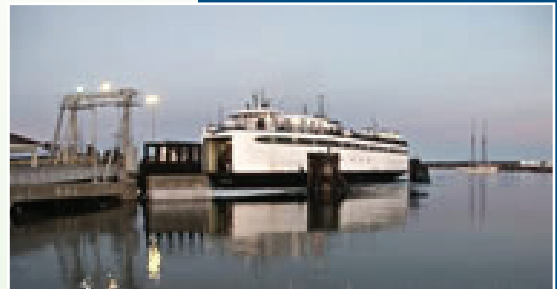
The plan was approved by the U.S. Coast Guard Commandant (G-MOR-2) in that it was prepared in compliance with the requirements of the 2004 Act and provisions within 33 CFR 155, Subpart D.

Client: William Cloutier
Steamship Authority
508-548-5011 ext. 276

HW contact:
Joe Longo

www.horsleywitten.com

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Sandwich, MA

90 Route 6A
Sandwich, MA 02563
tel: 508-833-6600

Newburyport, MA

30 Green Street
Newburyport, MA 01950
tel: 978-499-0601

Providence, RI

370 Ives Street
Providence, RI 02906
tel: 401-272-1717