

Submerged Oil Working Group

November 2, 2016

Clean Gulf Conference, New Orleans LA

Meeting Notes

Participants: Nancy Kinner, J.T. Ewing, Victoria Broje, Steve Buschang, Scott Lundgren, Chris Barker, Lindsey Saum

Updates on research and status of projects:

1. Research Planning Inc (Jacqui Michel email update)
 - API Sunken Oil Detection, Containment, and Recovery documents have been published and are available here (under Inland) at: <http://www.oilspillprevention.org/oil-spill-research-and-development-cente>. These documents (report and field guide) are posted on the CRRC Submerged Oil working group webpage. http://crrc.unh.edu/research_swg
 - Also, the API report on Options for Minimizing Environmental Impacts of Inland Spill Response is in final formatting and should be published soon. It includes a section on Group V oils that submerge.
2. Ed Owens oil detection dogs. More here>> <http://www.k9scat.com/>
3. Shell (Victoria Broje)
 - A review by Royal Society of Canada of oil behavior that includes behavior of diluted bitumen is now available online http://www.rsc.ca/sites/default/files/pdf/OIW%20Report_1.pdf. CAPP and CEPA provided funding. It was Phase 1 of the project.
 - Phase 2 of CAPP & CEPA project if to conduct new experimental study of oil behavior at SL Ross facility. The external technical advisory team was formed, test protocols are being discussed and work will begin in early 2017.

Study will include:

- Laboratory-scale testing on selected conventional crude oils, shale oils, diluents, and diluted bitumen products. Testing will measure oil composition and properties and how those change with weathering, adhesion on a variety of surfaces, and the effects of interactions with suspended particulates.
- Meso-scale testing in test tank to measure the effects of weathering on water with the selected oils at a larger scale. Testing will assess the effects of temperature, waves, current, air flow, salinity, UV rays and suspended particulates and will verify bench scale tests.

The overall objective is to inform responders on behavior of various oils (dilbit) under various spill scenarios and environmental conditions.

- Question on wide variability of dilbits= range of products will be selected to represent a range of possible products that are transported in Canada.
- Question on whether this information is available from MSDS = MSDS doesn't provide information needed for response and prediction of product behavior

especially in case of diluted bitumen. This study will generate additional information.

- Texas has a chemist at Jefferson Energies who put together a response for each of their blends. Will forward this information once completed.
 - Environment Canada has developed something similar. Check with Bruce Hollebhone on dilbit properties for pipeline transport. Bruce and Environment Canada is on the technical advisory committee for this project.
 - Also note information on the Crude Oil Monitor. This information was used to select oils for the study, but it doesn't provide properties of weathered products needed for behavior analysis.
4. NOAA ORR ERD – Chris Barker
 - No report
 - Please keep Paige Doelling in the loop on Jefferson Energy as she worked with TX GLO on this spill
 5. Texas GLO – Steve Buschang
 - Internal training presentation (see attached)
 6. NOAA ORR ERD – Scott Lundgren
 - UNH students doing lab experiments with sorbent snare to determine pick up rates
 - NAS study (PHMSA-funded)
 - BSEE wish lists from NOAA; still working on this for dilbit. Chris will get updates with Environment Canada. Forming collaboration in order to share this flow of information
 - Report to Congress re: freshwater spill response (Great Lakes) not specific to heavy oils
 7. CRRC – Nancy Kinner
 - Note the new Clean Waterways Conference in June 2017 in Louisville, KY
 - IOSC is having an inland track as well
 - UNH students lab experiments in circular flume
 - Installing/renovating a straight flume
 - Steve Lehmann suggested study: drag snare or pompoms for detection what does it mean? Wet snare is different than dry snare; different snare holds oil differently; if snare is coated, does it lose oil while dragging; freshwater vs. saltwater; only using No 6 oil from Sprague – need other types of oils for experiments.
 8. JT Ewing mentioned a new sorbent company – Spilltration – that he saw here at Clean Gulf and was impressed as it picks up diesel/fine sheen. It is a Halen Hardey company. The founder was also the founder of the “New Pig Corporation” which now he sold and formed Spilltration Products. It is sorbent material primarily designed to work in the rain and wet environments. It is made with the same melt blown polypropylene fibers as standard sorbents but with a looser weave which allows more water to pass through and absorbs the oil. I can see it used like a filter on decanting jobs or spills near storm drains. Their web site is www.spilltration.com or you can see some of their products demonstrated on u-tube.

Next meeting to be held at IOSC.