

**§ 2753. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-134, title I, § 101(c) [title I, § 109], Apr. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 1321-156, 1321-177; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 104-140, § 1(a), May 2, 1996, 110 Stat. 1327**

Section, Pub. L. 101-380, title VI, § 6003, Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 555, related to protection of the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

**SUBCHAPTER IV—OIL POLLUTION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**§ 2761. Oil pollution research and development program**

**(a) Interagency Coordinating Committee on Oil Pollution Research**

**(1) Establishment**

There is established an Interagency Coordinating Committee on Oil Pollution Research (hereinafter in this section referred to as the "Interagency Committee").

**(2) Purposes**

The Interagency Committee shall coordinate a comprehensive program of oil pollution research, technology development, and demonstration among the Federal agencies, in cooperation and coordination with industry, universities, research institutions, State governments, and other nations, as appropriate, and shall foster cost-effective research mechanisms, including the joint funding of research.

**(3) Membership**

The Interagency Committee shall include representatives from the Coast Guard, the Department of Commerce (including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Institute of Standards and Technology), the Department of Energy, the Department of the Interior (including the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service), the Department of Transportation (including the Maritime Administration and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration), the Department of Defense (including the Army Corps of Engineers and the Navy), the Department of Homeland Security (including the United States Fire Administration in the Federal Emergency Management Agency), the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the United States Arctic Research Commission, and such other Federal agencies the President may designate.

**(4) Chairman**

A representative of the Coast Guard shall serve as Chairman.

**(b) Oil pollution research and technology plan**

**(1) Implementation plan**

Within 180 days after August 18, 1990, the Interagency Committee shall submit to Congress a plan for the implementation of the oil pollution research, development, and demonstration program established pursuant to subsection (c). The research plan shall—

(A) identify agency roles and responsibilities;

(B) assess the current status of knowledge on oil pollution prevention, response, and mitigation technologies and effects of oil pollution on the environment;

(C) identify significant oil pollution research gaps including an assessment of major technological deficiencies in responses to past oil discharges;

(D) establish research priorities and goals for oil pollution technology development related to prevention, response, mitigation, and environmental effects;

(E) estimate the resources needed to conduct the oil pollution research and development program established pursuant to subsection (c), and timetables for completing research tasks; and

(F) identify, in consultation with the States, regional oil pollution research needs and priorities for a coordinated, multidisciplinary program of research at the regional level.

**(2) Advice and guidance**

The Chairman, through the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall contract with the National Academy of Sciences to—

(A) provide advice and guidance in the preparation and development of the research plan; and

(B) assess the adequacy of the plan as submitted, and submit a report to Congress on the conclusions of such assessment.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology shall provide the Interagency Committee with advice and guidance on issues relating to quality assurance and standards measurements relating to its activities under this section.

**(c) Oil pollution research and development program**

**(1) Establishment**

The Interagency Committee shall coordinate the establishment, by the agencies represented on the Interagency Committee, of a program for conducting oil pollution research and development, as provided in this subsection.

**(2) Innovative oil pollution technology**

The program established under this subsection shall provide for research, development, and demonstration of new or improved technologies which are effective in preventing or mitigating oil discharges and which protect the environment, including—

(A) development of improved designs for vessels and facilities, and improved operational practices;

(B) research, development, and demonstration of improved technologies to measure the ullage of a vessel tank, prevent discharges from tank vents, prevent discharges during lightering and bunkering operations, contain discharges on the deck of a vessel, prevent discharges through the use of vacuums in tanks, and otherwise contain discharges of oil from vessels and facilities;

(C) research, development, and demonstration of new or improved systems of mechani-