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From: Barbara W Wainman <bwainman@usgs.gov>
Sent: Tue, 17 Aug 2010 15:19:06
To: GS FOIA 0134 <foia0134@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fw: Deepwater Horizon MC252 Gulf Incident Oil Budget calculator inquiry.

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----- Forwarded by Barbara W Wainman/DO/USGS/DOI on 08/17/2010 03:18 PM

From: Bill Lukas <wlu@usgs.gov>

To: Heather Urban <Heather_Urban@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Barbara Wainman <bwainman@usgs.gov>, Kathleen Gohn <kgohn@usgs.gov>

Date: 08/09/2010 11:30 AM

Subject: Deepwater Horizon MC252 Gulf Incident Oil Budget Calculator inquiry.

Heather

This activity is more NOAA than anyone and we have prepared the following response to the questions from the staffer with the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on the Budget Calculator. We are finding the appropriate NOAA contact to include in the response.

Let me know your thoughts... Thanks,

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The Deepwater Horizon MC252 Gulf Incident Oil Budget Calculator is a joint effort of scientists and engineers from government, academia, and industry. The development of the tool has included leadership from NOAA who have provided a team federal and independent oil fate and behavior scientists, from the US Coast Guard who have responsibility for fate of oil tracking and data input, from NIST who has provided a team of statisticians, and from USGS who has contributed a team of computer scientists. The scientific paper that details the calculations and assumptions, documents the model, and provides the basis for the technological tool is still undergoing approval processes through government channels for final publication. The overall model and its underlying assumptions have been through rigorous scientific review by a multi-organization team of experts whose work will be cataloged as part of the peer review process.

The data that have been used in the calculator include direct measurements and estimates made in the field and recorded in the tool by USCG personnel with National Incident Command. The underlying daily data and the actual scientific program used to calculate the oil budget will be made available as part of the final report that is in draft.

As overall scientific lead for the Oil Budget Calculator, questions about the model can be referred to _____ with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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