



## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2026-0048]

### Availability of Report “Monetizing the Benefits of Avoided Oil Spills in the Maritime Environment”

**AGENCY:** Coast Guard, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Coast Guard announces the availability of a report titled “Monetizing the Benefits of Avoided Oil Spills in the Maritime Environment”. This report was written to update the value of avoided oil spills used by the Coast Guard in regulatory analyses. The Coast Guard requests public comments on the report.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted to the online docket via <https://www.regulations.gov> on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by docket number USCG-2026-0048 at <https://www.regulations.gov>. See the “Public Participation and Request for Comments” portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for further instructions on submitting comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information about this document contact Chris Lauer, Coast Guard; e-mail: [Christopher.j.lauer@uscg.mil](mailto:Christopher.j.lauer@uscg.mil); phone: (206) 827-4319.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Public Participation and Comments**

We encourage you to submit comments or related material on the data, methods and values presented in the report. We will consider all submissions and may adjust our

final action based on your comments. If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice, indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation.

*Submitting comments.* We encourage you to submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>. To do so, go to <https://www.regulations.gov>, type USCG-2026-0048 in the search box and click "Search." Next, look for this document in the **Search Results** column, and click on it. Then click on the **Comment** option. If your material cannot be submitted using <http://www.regulations.gov>, contact the person in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document for alternate instructions.

*Viewing material in docket.* To view documents mentioned in this notice as being available in the docket, find the docket as described in the previous paragraph, and then select "Supporting & Related Material" in the Document Type column. Public comments will also be placed in our online docket and can be viewed by following instructions on the <https://www.regulations.gov> Frequently Asked Questions webpage.

*Personal information.* We accept anonymous comments. Comments we post to <https://www.regulations.gov> will include any personal information you have provided. For more about privacy and submissions in response to this document, see DHS's eRulemaking System of Records notice (85 FR 14226, March 11, 2020).

## **Discussion**

The Coast Guard is making available a report titled "Monetizing the Benefits of Avoided Oil Spills in the Maritime Environment" prepared by Industrial Economics Inc. This report was written to update the value of avoided oil spills used by the Coast Guard in regulatory analysis. Coast Guard has been using an avoided cost approach to value prevented oil spills in its regulatory analyses. The estimated cost which had been in use since 2008 was based on an average cost per gallon spilled and was developed using data

about payments from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund that occurred from 2002-2007. Coast Guard has updated our methods for valuing avoided oil spills using newer, more current data and revised methods. In this report, we describe our review of available literature and datasets, our selection of a valuation method based on current best practices, and the development of recommended values. We request your comments on the data, methodology, models, and findings presented in this report. A copy of the report is available in the docket.

This notice is issued under authority of 5 U.S.C. 552.

**Timothy M. Brown,**

*Chief, Office of Standards Evaluation and Development.*

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