United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
ALASKA REGION

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Herbert H. Ray, Jr., Esq.
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1029 West Third Avenue
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Re: *M/V* Selendang Ayu

Dear Bert:

I am writing to provide you an update concerning oiled bird carcasses recovered from beaches in connection with the *M/V* Selendang Ayu incident ("Incident"). In March, you and I discussed the possibility of representatives of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service ("FWS") and the Responsible Parties meeting to discuss a potential cooperative project regarding the analysis of oil from carcasses. As I explained then, additional internal conversations within the FWS were necessary before we could proceed along those lines.

I wanted to let you know that FWS has decided to initiate identification of species before making decisions or engaging in discussions with the Responsible Parties' representatives about oil analysis. As a result, FWS is in the process of having the species of the oiled birds identified, a process which FWS hopes will be completed sometime this fall. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Toussaint

cc: Jenifer Kohout, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Deborah Rocque, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Regina Belt, U.S. Department of Justice