

Quick Reading Guide to

SOUND TRUTH AND CORPORATE MYTHS

(These pages are dog-eared in my book for quick reference – Riki Ott)

Page	Comment
10	Under pressure from organized labor, OSHA changed Hazardous Waste Operators and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) training to include oil spills. [OSHA deregulated crude oil from its list of hazardous substances in 2004. This is, in part, why oil spill responders were given hard hats instead of respirators.]
12-13	MSDS for Corexit 9527: prevent liquid from entering sewers, watercourses, or low areas
27	Dr. Robert Rigg with Standard Alaska (BP) warned of illnesses identical to those experienced by VOO responders, then Gulf residents and visitors.
33	When Exxon realized clean up workers were getting sick, the company circulated a partial release form to indemnify itself from future lawsuits over damages (health claims) – and it paid workers to sign it. [BP is circulating a form to gain access to protected personal health records. My advice is do not sign it. See www.RikiOtt.com . This document is posted on our home page.]
57	Exxon's own clinical records showing 2 of every 3 beach workers reported upper respiratory problems for a total of 6,722 claims during the 1989 cleanup. None of these claims were reported to OSHA officials, leading OSHA to conclude that long-term medical surveillance was not needed.
59-61	Effect of dangerous chemical, according to expert toxicologist.
61-62	Substituting mineral oil and dust for oil standards and effect of long work hours mean federal "protective" standards do not adequately protect worker health.
66	OSHA exemption 29 CFR 1904.5(b)(2)(viii) is still on the books. It exempts colds and flu from reporting requirements for hazardous waste cleanups. Colds and flu symptoms mimic the symptoms for poisoning through chemical illnesses. This means that OSHA does not recognize chemical illnesses and fails to protect workers who have work-related chemical illnesses. It gives industry a loophole to avoid being held accountable to pay medical expenses for chemically ill workers. This exemption needs to be removed! See www.RikiOtt.com/pdf/Clinton_2001.pdf
75-82	Chemical detoxification treatment: an example of what is needed to minimize long-term health problems in people with chemical illnesses.
135-38	NIOSH investigators conduct a Health Hazard Evaluation and conclude that long-term medical surveillance is not needed. [Some of the same NIOSH investigators are reaching the same conclusions in the Gulf.]

- 149 Dispersants are solvents and are toxic by nature. [Yet in the Gulf disaster, the EPA has consistently downplayed the toxic nature of chemical dispersants.]
- 163 Chemical illnesses linked with overexposure to oil and dispersants
- 388-92 Summary of harmful effects of oil and solvents to humans
- 414-15 Key lessons learned from the Exxon Valdez oil spill
- 422-27 Recommendations regarding dispersant listing. Sign the online petition at www.ipetitions.com/petition/delist/ or download a hard copy at www.RikiOtt.com/pdf/Petition-USEPA-Delist-A.doc
- 439-40 Workers' compensation program fails to compensate workers with chemical illnesses
- 450 Exxon's air quality monitoring data showing that workers were overexposed to oil and solvents
- 554-55 Illnesses - a list of symptoms