

# Ron Levy

Diluting or eliminating any of our oil spill response funds or abilities, as indicated by the very nebulous changes in the state regulations requested by the Dunleavy administration, is suicidal. It seems to be a very transparent ploy to increase oil industry profits at the very real cost to Alaskans' health, livelihoods, economies and confidence in the ability of government to keep them safe.

The costs of another cleanup anywhere close to the size of the Exxon Valdez spill would (again) cripple the economy and future of Alaskans' lifestyle for an untold amount of time. To reduce funding when we already know what the social, environmental, economic and emotional costs can be from a major spill is not only massively irresponsible and unethical, it seems to open the state up to legal actions in the future. In a nutshell, probably the only benefit of the Exxon spill is that we have been warned. The state has no excuse to be "kicking the bucket" down the road, but this time from your side of the street to the side of Alaskan citizens, children and innocent victims. It would be criminal to knowingly strip us of our ability to protect our cherished lifestyles, tourism industries, fishing economies and any other family or business that depends on our clean lands and oceans staying that way.

Let the regulations continue to do what they were drafted for. You know better.

Ron Levy  
Resident since 1981