SCAA Members Visit EPA Headquarters
Washington, D.C.

On April 18th, several SCAA members attended a meeting at the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) headquarters in Washington, D.C. to discuss oil spill dispersants and the recently updated Subpart J rule.

Led by the American Petroleum Institute’s (API) Sr. Policy Advisor Tim Steffek and accompanied by a number of oil industry representatives; SCAA members participated in an open dialogue with several members of EPA’s Office of Emergency Management (OEM). SCAA representation was critical to the meeting as “the voice of spill response professionals” for the past fifty years.

SCAA was represented by Executive Director Brian House, along with John Swift (Marine Spill Response Corporation), Frank Paskewich (Clean Gulf Associates) and Vania De Stefani and Paul Schuler (Oil Spill Response Limited). It is noteworthy that the members in attendance are also members of the Association of Petroleum Industry Cooperative Managers (APICOM), which demonstrates the close working between the Associations on important industry matters. Further, OSRL’s presence highlighted the inter-connectivity of dispersant use and regulation in the United States with the global market and supply chain.

The primary purpose of the meeting was to bring the participants a greater understanding of intent of the Rule, and to develop consensus on how certain aspects of the Rule would be implemented. Specific areas that were discussed in detail included dispersant listings and authorized representatives, storage, maintenance and authorization of use, and the availability of reference oil for future R&D and testing.