

SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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April 5, 2013

TO: Commissioners and Alternates

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SUBJECT: Board of Pilot Commissioners Action Related to Overseas Reymar Accident
(For Commission information only)

Staff Report

Action. On April 4, 2013, the Board of Pilot Commissioners for the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun (BOPC) decided to temporarily suspend the license of the bar pilot involved in striking the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge with the tanker *Overseas Reymar*, until the results of a formal hearing are final.

The BOPC voted unanimously to take the action following a presentation of the results of a three-month investigation by the Board's Incident Review Committee. The BOPC will file a formal accusation, which initiates a legal proceeding before the Office of Administrative Hearings (Office). The Office is a state agency that oversees license disciplinary matters. Once a formal accusation is filed, a formal hearing would be held whereby an administrative law judge would determine if pilot error contributed to the accident, and whether to suspend or revoke the pilot's license.

Background. The BOPC licenses and regulates up to 60 Bay Area ship pilots, and began its review immediately following the January 7, 2013 allision of the tanker *Overseas Reymar* with Pier E of the Bay Bridge near Yerba Buena Island.

The Harbor Safety Committee is conducting a review of safe navigation practices, per order of the US Coast Guard Captain of the Port. Staff will monitor the BOPC activities while participating in the work of the Harbor Safety Committee and its work groups to evaluate potential changes to safe navigation practices in the Bay. An incident report by the Coast Guard is expected in approximately two months. The Coast Guard could take a number of actions based on the findings of their report, such as developing transiting or reporting requirements for implementation by the Vessel Traffic Service, or possibly adopting regulations.

