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Coast Guard report, Shell fails again

Washington – Today, the U.S. Coast Guard released its report, [“Report of Investigation into the Circumstances Surrounding the Multiple Related Marine Casualties and Grounding of the Modu Kulluk.”](#)

In May of last year, the U.S. Coast Guard held [nine days of investigative hearings](#) on the grounding of Shell Oil Company’s drilling rig, the *Kulluk*, which ended in [“equipment failures, fuel problems and human error during the troubled voyage and frantic but failed effort to save the Kulluk.”](#) For additional background, please see the [reporter memo](#) that we send out last May.

Statement by Cindy Shogan, Executive Director:

“The information revealed from the Coast Guard investigations just adds to what we already suspected about Shell and its mishaps and serious errors during its 2012 drilling program. Shell lied, Shell’s equipment failed, and Shell’s crew caused significant human error leading to the Kulluk running aground in 2012.

In fact, the Aiviq Master sent the following in an email to the Tow Master, aboard the Kulluk about the crew’s performance: *‘To be blunt I believe that this length of tow, at this time of year, in this location, with our current routing guarantees an ass kicking.’*

The report continues to demonstrate that no oil company is ready to drill in the Arctic. Shell Oil was forced to abandon its plans to drill in the Arctic Ocean in 2013 due to its own lack of preparedness and technical failures, together with Alaska’s harsh and unpredictable conditions. President Obama should take this opportunity to place a moratorium on Arctic Ocean drilling.”



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