



SPILL NOTIFICATION POINT

For Oil & HNS Ministerio de Transporte e Infraestructura (MTI) Dirección General de Transporte Acuatico Nacional (DGTA) Dpto Prevención a la Contaminación Marina Frente al Estadio Nacional Managua	Tel: 505 222 6928 24 hr: 505 250 5283 Fax: 505 222 6928 E-Mail: pportuaria@mti.gob.ni directacua@mti.gob.ni Web www.mti.gob.ni
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COMPETENT NATIONAL AUTHORITY

Contact details are as for the Spill Notification Point.

RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS

Nicaragua has an official national contingency plan, which was last revised in 2007, and favours a shipowner-led response. The lead government agency for spill response is Dirección General de Transporte Acuatico Nacional (DGTA), which is assisted by a technical committee composed of members of different private and public bodies such as the oil industry, navy, port authorities, National Department for Natural Disasters and other support organisations. An agreement is in place for the oil industry to support the government – with personnel and equipment – in the event of an incident. A mechanism is also in place for the transboundary movement of equipment with neighbouring states through the Directorate General of Customs.

RESPONSE POLICY

The NCP lays out the decision-making process for the use of dispersants. COREXIT has been officially approved by the Ministry of Environment, but is forbidden in certain zones, such as nursery grounds and shallow waters, as specified in the NCP. Areas of high sensitivity requiring special protection have been identified in the NCP.

EQUIPMENT

Government

The government does not own much in the way of specialised resources, but has gained a certain level of expertise in responding to spills and in the use of equipment. It demands that harbour administrations and companies have a minimum level of equipment available.

Private

The Esso terminals in Corinto and Sandino Harbours have equipment to respond to small spills, including boom, skimmers, vessels and dispersant. ENRON (power station) in Corinto Harbour also has some containment and recovery equipment, plus dispersants. On the Atlantic side, there are small stockpiles at El Bluff, Corn Island and Puerto Cabezas.

PREVIOUS SPILL EXPERIENCE

Nicaragua has not suffered any major tanker pollution incidents. In 1999 a small spill of oily muds (30 gallons) in Corinto Harbour was cleared up by the spiller in collaboration with local companies who provided equipment.



NICARAGUA

HAZARDOUS AND NOXIOUS SUBSTANCES (HNS)

Nicaragua is gearing towards preparations for HNS and ratifying the OPRC-HNS and HNS Conventions. It intends to incorporate HNS arrangements into its current oil spill contingency plan. They have a limited amount of equipment available, including PPE and respirators.

CONVENTIONS

Prevention & Safety					Spill Response		Compensation						
MARPOL 73/78		Annexes III IV V VI			OPRC '90	OPRC -HNS	CLC '69 '76 '92			Fund '92	Supp Fund	HNS*	Bunker*
✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓					

* not yet in force

REGIONAL AND BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Cartagena Convention (with states of the Wider Caribbean Region).

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