



Draft Political Statement on Inshore Ship to Ship transfers of crude oil products and other hydrocarbons.

Statement is forwarded by Cllr. Alex Thomson, Fife County Council,
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The local authorities surrounding the North Sea represented by the North Sea Commission call upon the member Governments and the European Commission to address urgently the question of inshore Ship to Ship transfers of crude oil products and other hydrocarbons. In view of the potential environmental and economic consequences of spillage, there is a need for a common strategy covering the North Sea area. This strategy must take into account the likely increasing demand for such transfers as tanker-borne crude and refined oil exports from the Baltic and Barents Sea areas increases. Such a strategy should also address the availability of alternative less hazardous methods of dealing with any transfer.