

Electronic Media Transcripts

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Announcer: If an offshore oil spill happens, being ready for it and having the ability to clean it up are important. According to the Environment minister, there is some work ahead to be fully ready. Here is NTV's Ken Regular.

Ken Regular: This equipment is used for cleaning up oil spills at sea. Soon fishermen will be trained in how to use it all. For the Environment minister, it's a big first step but he's still worried about major oil spill.

Tom Osborne: I, I'd like to, to have a greater sense of comfort myself that if we were to have a Prestige or an Exxon Valdez type of spill that we have a, a level of response that is capable of handling the job. And I don't yet personally have that sense of comfort that we can handle the job.

Regular: In the past the Environment minister has been talking about the nation's ability to respond to offshore oil spills. He doesn't think it's good enough. Within five years, the new program announced last week will train 500 fishermen to be first responders to an oil spill. Minister Osborne says trained fishermen will make him feel better.

Osborne: It's a huge step forward. If you look at what happened in Spain just after the Prestige spill, fishermen in Spain played a huge part in responding and really they were untrained. Through One Oceans now, fishermen will be trained, will give us a much greater sense of comfort that they are, are ready and able to respond.

Regular: Ken Regular, NTV News.

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