

## Exercise 1 Pollution event at sea

Exercise Saltee Islands

Command and control exercise

Fleet work simulators as follows

1. 2 Irish Naval Service vessels
2. L.E. Niamh P52 call sign EIYN
3. L.E. Aisling P23 call sign EIYP
4. Coast Guard Helicopter "Rescue 117"
5. Tug "Oyster Bank"
6. Local Authority
7. Media
8. Coordinator (at control station)

Background

Time 15:00 hrs local time

Day 15<sup>th</sup> April 2015

High water 09:28

Low water 15:28

Wind 10kts from the south expected to increase to 25kts over the course of the next 12 hours

Location: Port of Cork

A chemical tanker transiting the south coast of Ireland loses power due to an engine room fire. The vessel is drifting north towards the Saltee islands a special area of conservation.

During the exercise we will see the response from the coast guard and the Naval Service the decision making of the on scene commander and the response of the local authority.

Step	Time	Script
1a	15:00	<b>Narrator:</b> this exercise has commenced at 15:00. This scenario takes place on the south east coast of Ireland approximately 2 nautical

		<p>miles south of the Saltee islands (a special area of conservation). A chemical tanker transiting the south coast of Ireland heading for the Irish sea has lost power due to an engine room fire. The wind is increasing from the south. There is a Coast Guard helicopter in the area on a routine training exercise. There are also two Irish Naval Service vessels patrolling the area. During this exercise we will see the response of the tankers crew in requesting assistance. The arrival on scene of the Coast Guard helicopter and the initial assessment of the situation by Coast Guard. The assuming of on scene command by the Naval Service and the decision making of the OTC.</p>
1b	15:00	<p><b>Narrator:</b> the chemical tanker issues a Mayday that is answered by Rosslare radio</p>
2a	15:00	<p><b>Tanker:</b> “Mayday Mayday Mayday this is the tanker Viking sea we are a chemical tanker that has lost power due to an engine fire our position is 51:53N 6:55W we are drifting north towards the Saltee islands and require assistance over”</p>
2b	15:01	<p><b>Rosslare Radio:</b> “Viking Sea this is Rosslare radio message received can you confirm the number of persons on board and the weather at your location over</p>
2c		<p><b>Narrator:</b> Rosslare Radio continues to</p>

		communicate with the tanker and establishes information about the incident. The Viking sea confirms there are 12 persons on board with no injuries. Knowing that there is a Coast guard helicopter in the area Rosslare radio tasks the helicopter (call sign “rescue 117”) to the scene
2d	15:05	Rosslare radio: “Rescue 117 proceed to position 51:53N 6:55W and standby to assist the Viking sea over”
2e	15:05	Rescue 117: “Message received proceeding to position 51:53N 6:55W” over
2f	15:06	Narrator: Rosslare radio contacts MRCC in Dublin and informs them that a chemical tanker the Viking sea reports that it has an engine room fire and has no power. There is a Naval presence in the area and could be used to assist and coordinate any response and that Rescue 117 is proceeding to the scene.
3a	15:10	Narrator: MRCC assumes control of the response and issue a 2 nautical mile exclusion zone around the tanker. Dublin coastal radio will relay all commands from MRCC to Rosslare Radio.
3b	15:15	Rosslare radio: “L.E. Niamh proceed to location 51:53N 6:55W to assess the situation and report back to MRCC over

3c	15:15	L.E. Niamh: “Roger proceed to location 51:53N 6:55W ETA 35 min” over
3d	15:20	Rosslare radio: all stations an exclusion zone is now in place for a radius of 2 nautical miles around the Viking sea in position 51:53N 6:55W I say again an exclusion zone is now in place for a radius of 2 nautical miles around the Viking Sea in position 51:53N 6:55W Rosslare radio out
4a	15:50	Narrator: Both the L.E. Niamh and rescue 117 are now on scene and are evaluating the situation they report back to MRCC
4b	16:00	L.E. Niamh: Dublin radio the Viking sea is drifting north towards the Saltee islands thick black smoke and fire can be seen rising from the funnel vents and the tanker is leaking some of its cargo over the side a small chemical slick is starting to form on the surface Waiting further instructions over
5a	16:00	Narrator: MRCC through Dublin radio tasks OIC L.E. Niamh to assume OTC and tasks L.E. Aisling to go to the scene of the incident.
5b	16:10	Narrator: MRCC tasks the tug “Oyster Bank” to proceed from Dunmore East to the scene to assist the naval Vessels
5c	16:15	Narrator: MRCC contacts the relevant Local Authorities and advises them to activate their Local Action Plans for a chemical spill and the

		possible grounding of the tanker. The local authority mobilise their response teams and equipment and begin preparing for the possibility of the HNS spill coming ashore.
5d	16:30	<b>Narrator:</b> The coast guard contacts national and local Radio and Newspapers and inform them of the events unfolding off the South Coast
6a	16:35	<b>Narrator:</b> L.E. Niamh advises MRCC that the wind has increased to 15kts
6b	17:00	<b>Narrator:</b> Tug Oyster Bank arrives on scene from Dunmore East and starts to transfer anti-pollution equipment to the Naval vessels.
6c	17:00	<b>OTC:</b> Oyster Bank stand by to assist the Viking sea over
6d	17:00	<b>Oyster Bank:</b> Oyster Bank standing by over
7a	17:10	<b>Rescue 117:</b> L.E Niamh the fire on board the Viking Sea appears to have diminished and is under control over
7b	17:15	<b>Narrator:</b> Video footage from the Coast Guard helicopter indicates that the fire is coming under control
8	1720	<b>Narrator:</b> a reporter from a national radio station contacts the L.E. Niamh by mobile phone looking to speak to the captain. The captain tells the reporter that he will call back in 10 minutes. After consulting the Naval press secretary the Naval press secretary contacts

		the reporter and informs him that the tanker is drifting north towards the Saltee islands and is on fire. OTC informs the reporter that the Naval service and the coast guard are monitoring the situation and will provide all necessary assistance to the tanker
9a	17:20	OTC: L.E. Aisling this is L.E. Niamh launch rib to take samples of the spill over
9b	17:20	L.E. Aisling: Roger launching rib over
9c	17:30	Narrator: Naval personnel wearing PPE from L.E. Aisling's rib collect samples for analysis
9d	17:30	OTC: Rescue 117 stand by to transfer naval personnel to the Viking Sea
9e	17:30	Rescue 117: Roger Rescue 117 standing by over
9f	17:45	Narrator: A small team of Naval personnel wearing PPE are transferred to the Viking Sea by the coast guard helicopter to take readings of the HNS spill
9g	17:50	Narrator: Rescue 117 takes the samples from the L.E. Aisling and transfers them to Waterford for analysis
10a	17:55	OTC: MRCC the Viking Sea is drifting north towards the Great Saltee island and is just under one nautical mile from the island the wind speed is now 18kts over
10b	17:55	MRCC: message received and understood out

11a	18:00	<b>Narrator:</b> Naval service personnel give sensor readings to OTC, the readings are forwarded to MRCC for advice. MRCC indicate that the HNS readings being sent from the Viking Sea by the Naval personnel are within acceptable levels and that all attempts to stabilise the Viking Sea should be made.
11b	18:00	<b>L.E. Niamh:</b> Oyster Bank this is L.E. Niamh proceed to place the containment boom downwind of the Viking Sea over
11c	18:00	<b>Oyster Bank:</b> understood L.E. Niamh proceeding to place the containment boom around the Viking Sea over
11d	18:20	<b>Narrator:</b> the naval service can now begin to treat the chemical spill with dispersants
12a	18:30	<b>OTC:</b> MRCC the Viking Sea is now half a mile from the island and it may not be possible to prevent the ship from running aground over
12b	18:30	<b>MRCC:</b> Understood make all possible efforts to prevent the grounding. over
12c	19:40	<b>Narrator:</b> it is now certain that the Viking Sea will run aground in the next 20 minutes the crew of Viking Sea are taken to safety by coast guard helicopter, Naval Service rib's and lifeboat.
12d	19:00	<b>OTC:</b> MRCC Viking Sea has run aground on the Great Saltee island
13	19:00	<b>Narrator:</b> the Local Authority commence their

