

May 21st, 2015 - California

A broken pipeline caused a petroleum spill of more than 400.000 liters in the Pacific Ocean, giving rise to an environmental disaster of huge proportions along California coasts. From Santa Barbara to the south, the crude oil stain overwhelmed the beaches, causing serious damages to plants and animals inhabiting the area.

The same coastline of Santa Barbara already experienced an environmental tragedy in year 1969, when up to 80.000-100.000 gallons of crude oil spilled into the sea. This last accident is raising the fear to compromise the ecosystem equilibrium, with particular risks for certain species of whales that migrate in this area.

The Company All American, owner of the oil pipeline, said they are “deeply sorry” for the spill and they will cooperate to limit the damage. The oil pipeline was built in year 1991, to transport 150.000 barrels per day. With this new case in California, there is a risk to intensify the arguments on the permission given from Obama to drill in the Arctic. In the last days, with the arrival at the Port of Seattle of the tugboats carrying the Polar Pioneer oil rig for the Arctic Sea, there are many protests under way.



Birds covered with oil after the spill into the sea

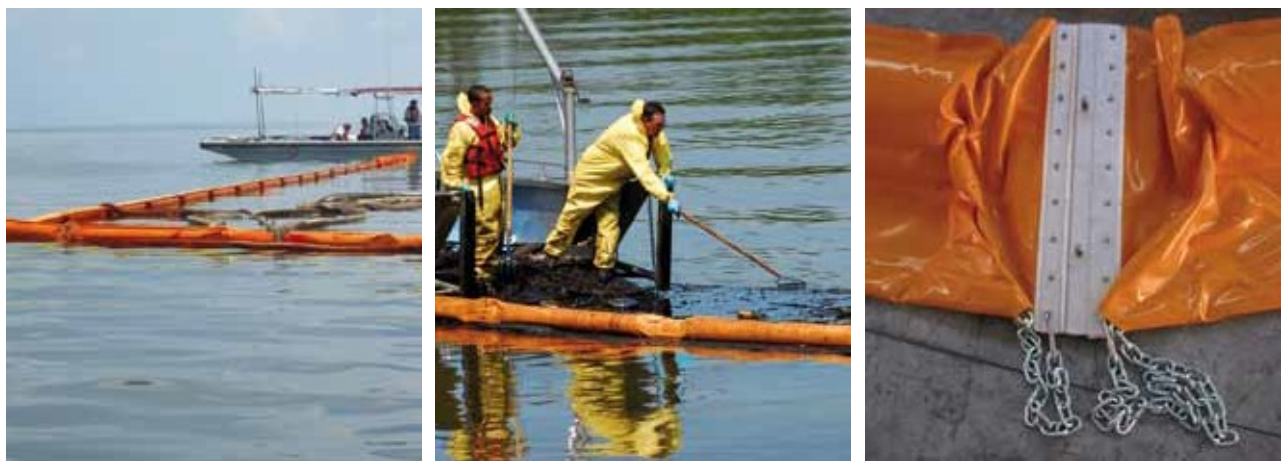
When there are this kind of accidents, it is necessary to act promptly, containing the spill with barriers, as prescribed by the **Law Decree no. 152 dated April 3rd, 2006 and subsequent modifications and supplements:**

General criteria for the selection and the execution of clean-up operations, environmental restoration and safety operations (of emergency, operative or permanent), and for the individuation of the best intervention methods with bearable costs. Attachments to title V – attachment no. 3 : Emergency safety operations.

The emergency safety operations must be promptly carried out in case of accidents or clear situations of environmental pollution danger or human health risks, to remove or isolate the contamination sources and activate mitigating actions to prevent and eliminate immediate dangers towards people and surrounding environment. These interventions, in lack of specific data, are defined according to precautionary hypothesis.

Once the spill has been contained, it is possible to proceed with the pollutant absorption using cloths, sausage barriers, etc.

Our containment barriers fit for this purpose and allow to isolate and contain the encroachment of oil stains, foams sewages, mucilage and, in general, all floating materials.



Moreover, with the arrival of the summer holiday season, containment barriers with anti-jellyfish and anti-algae nets can be the perfect choice to protect our coasts and beaches and guarantee safe and clean baths to the tourists.

