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**Applied Research Associates, Inc. Selected as Contractor for the Operation of Ohmsett**

Leonardo, New Jersey - Ohmsett, the National Oil Spill Response Research and Renewable Energy Test Facility, is a national research asset within the Department of Interior's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). The test facility provides a unique environment for the development and testing of new oil spill response technologies, assessing spill prevention and response methods, and providing oil spill response training. Additionally, the 203 meters long by 20 meters wide, 2.4 meters deep test tank filled with crystal clear salt water has a wave generating system that is ideal for ongoing developments in marine renewable energy.

In August, Applied Research Associates, Inc. (ARA) was selected by BSEE to operate and maintain the Ohmsett facility with an effective date of September 1, 2018. Under the new contract, ARA will support BSEE in creating an environment to accelerate oil spill response science and technology innovations, as well as other applications for the unique test facility. "As a focal point for the oil spill response community, the research conducted at Ohmsett influences the many important aspects of spill response technology development," said Len Zabilansky, ARA program manager for Ohmsett.

"With a quick transition from the incumbent to ARA, the facility has maintained uninterrupted operations while the staff continues to work with customers to develop test plans and schedule their time in the tank," said Zabilansky. "Customers will be pleased to see the familiar faces of our knowledgeable and skilled technical staff."

During this contract period of one base year and four option years, ARA will be instrumental in managing the five year refurbishment project scheduled for the summer of 2020. During this time, the tank will be drained, seals replaced, surfaces pressure washed and painted, as well as other maintenance tasks. For more information about the facility, and to discuss potential projects or schedule tank time, please contact Len Zabilansky at 732-866-7183 or email [lzabilansky@ohmsettnj.com](mailto:lzabilansky@ohmsettnj.com).

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