

Headlines:

USCG – Texas City “Y” incident update;
USCG – cyber security and the MTS;
BSEE – PREP Guidelines update;
NOAA – introduction of species into NMSs;
Boston – maritime industry day;
House – maritime budget hearing; and
Senate – cruise ship safety and security.

March 27, 2014



Bryant's Maritime News

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Note: This newsletter is one section of the [Bryant's Maritime Consulting](http://brymar-consulting.com) website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining [Dennis Bryant](mailto:dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com) directly. Much of the highlighted text in this newsletter constitutes links to Internet sites providing more detailed information. Links on this page may be in PDF format, requiring use of Adobe Acrobat Reader. Comments on these postings are encouraged and may be made by email to the editor or by going to the blog page on the website and clicking the envelope that appears at the end of each posting. Be aware that the daily newsletter is a single posting, even though it contains a number of individual items. A boiled egg first thing in the morning is hard to beat.

USCG – Texas City “Y” incident update



USCG Sector Houston-Galveston issued a **bulletin** updating the Texas City “Y” incident. The Captain of the Port (COTP) has authorized limited movement of commercial vessels, including commercial fishing vessels, through the safety zone from sunrise to sunset. Due to forecasted unfavorable tidal and weather conditions, vessel movements are authorized until midnight on 26 March. Transits through the safety zone of charter vessels, small passenger vessels, and recreational vessels are not authorized at this time. (3/26/14).

USCG – cyber security and the MTS



The US Coast Guard issued a message regarding cyber security and the Marine Transportation System (MTS). Among other things, it states that

USCG Captains of the Port (COTPs) should encourage vessel and facility operators to inventory their cyber systems, identify those that could potentially contribute to a Transportation Security Incident (TSI), and evaluate the degree to which such systems could be protected from attack, misuse, or failure. The Winter 2014-2015 edition of the Coast Guard Proceedings publication will focus on cyber security. Coast Guard units, industry, academia, and other government agency partners wishing to submit an article on cyber security should contact CDR Nicholas L. Wong at (202) 372-1107 or nicholas.l.wong@uscg.mil no later than 4 April with a proposed topic and author. **ALCOAST 122/14 (3/25/14)**.

BSEE – PREP Guidelines update



The Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) issued a notice stating that it seeks comments on the **draft National Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP) Guidelines** update. The Guidelines were last revised in 2002. Comments should be submitted by 24 April. **79 Fed. Reg. 16363** (March 25, 2014). Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Don Toenshoff of the **Marine Spill Response Corporation**.

NOAA – introduction of species into NMSs



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) proposes to amend the Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries (NMSs) regulations on introduced species to authorize certain introduced species of shellfish from commercial mariculture projects in state waters of the sanctuaries. Comments on the proposal should be submitted by 11 April. **79 Fed. Reg. 17073** (March 27, 2014).

Boston – maritime industry day



USCG Sector Boston will co-host the **Greater Boston Maritime Community Industry Day** in Winthrop, Massachusetts on 9 April. (3/26/14).

House – maritime budget hearing



The Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure conducted a hearing on the **President's Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Request for Coast Guard and**

Maritime Transportation Programs. Subcommittee Chair Duncan Hunter (R-CA) expressed concern regarding the budget cuts proposed for the Coast Guard and for proposed reductions in the Food for Peace program. **Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr.**, USCG, testified that the Coast Guard will strategically allocate resources to optimize mission performance. **The Honorable Paul “Chip” Jaenichen**, Maritime Administration, testified that the budget request supports the agency’s mission to foster, support, and develop the nation’s merchant marine. **The Honorable Mario Cordero**, Federal Maritime Commission, testified concerning the agency’s accomplishments and planned achievements. (3/26/14).

Senate – cruise ship safety and security



The Senate Commerce Committee issued a **press release** in which Committee Chair John D. Rockefeller (D-WV) states that he remains unconvinced that the cruise industry is doing enough to protect passengers. (3/26/14).

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If you have questions regarding the above items, please contact the editor:

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