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Earth Day – 22 April 2014; and
Letter of regret.

April 22, 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. Life is short. Don't make the same mistake twice – be original.

Gulf of Alaska – medical evacuation



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) stating that three crewmembers were evacuated from the cargo vessel Copacabana in the Gulf of Alaska 200 miles south of Kodiak. The crewmembers were injured when the vessel was struck by a large wave. The emergency medical evacuation involved the deployment from helicopters of two rescue swimmers, a flight surgeon, and a health services technician. (4/22/14).

Seattle – RNA proposed



The US Coast Guard proposes to establish a regulated navigation area (RNA) on a portion of the Lower Duwamish Waterway to protect the riverbed in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Slip 4 Early Action Area. Comments on the proposal should be submitted by 21 July. [79 Fed. Reg. 22459](#) (April 22, 2014).

CBP – quarterly interest rates



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice announcing the interest rates for the quarter beginning 1 April. The interest rates for overpayments will be 2% for corporations and 3% for non-corporations. The interest rate for underpayments will be 3% for both. [79 Fed. Reg. 22521](#) (April 22, 2014).

Antarctica – ice pier disposal permit



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a notice stating that it has re-issued a permit authorizing the National Science Foundation (NSF) to dispose of ice piers from its base at McMurdo Sound, Antarctica in ocean waters. This new permit replaces the old permit which has expired. [79 Fed. Reg. 22488](#) (April 22, 2014).

OMB – review of draft cruise ship regulations



The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has received for review the draft US Coast Guard interim final rule regarding [Consolidated Cruise Ship Regulations](#). The draft regulation proposes requirements for the screening of all baggage, personal items, and persons – including passengers, crew, and visitors – intended for carriage on a cruise ship. OMB review generally takes four months, but can be longer. (4/21/14).

DOS – “Our Ocean” Conference



The Department of State (DOS) issued a [news release](#) stating that it will host the “Our Ocean” Conference on 16-17 June in Washington, DC. The conference focuses on sustainable fisheries, marine pollution, and ocean

acidification. (4/21/14). *Note: This item was first brought to my attention by my good friend Larry Brennan of [Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Decker](#).*

NOAA – Arctic Action Plan



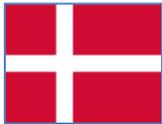
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) posted its **Arctic Action Plan**. The plan will be used to provide stakeholders with Arctic environmental intelligence in support of the national strategy for the Arctic region. (4/21/14).

Great Lakes – Operation Coal Shovel ends



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** stating that ice breaking operations on the lower Great Lakes have concluded for the season. Operation Coal Shovel commenced on 15 December 2013 and was a US-Canadian effort covering the St. Lawrence Seaway, Lake Ontario, Lake Erie, the Detroit/St. Clair River System, and southern Lake Huron. (4/21/14).

Denmark – fire on container ship



The Danish Maritime Accident Investigation Board issued a **Summary Report** concerning its investigation of a fire on the container ship *Eugen Maersk* in the Gulf of Aden on 18 June 2013. The fire likely started as a result of friction heat created by collapse of the container stacks in heavy weather, igniting the contents of one or more containers. Since the containers were not weighed upon loading, it is uncertain whether some stack loads exceeded the maximum acceptable limits. Subsequently, the company has equipped vessels with specially designed tools and fittings that ease fixing of fire hoses and nozzles for firefighting operations and anti-piracy measures. (4/10/14).

Earth Day – 22 April 2014



Today marks the forty-fourth anniversary of the recognition of **Earth Day**, intended to increase our awareness of the complexity and interdependence of life. A lot has changed in those 44 years. There have been a number of ecological success stories, such as the increase in the number of bald eagles. Other species, such as the North Atlantic right whale, remain at risk. Do your part today. And, if you are aware of another Earth nearby, please share.

Letter of regret



The “**Letter of regret**” is a classic piece of dry humor that has been kicking around the maritime community for a long time. I remember reading it for the first time about 30 years ago. My friend Don Burnham recently shared this copy with me. It deserves to be read slowly; it is as funny as ever.

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

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