

## Headlines:

MERPAC – teleconference meeting;  
USCG – NBSAC members sought;  
USCG – servicing of fire extinguishing systems;  
FERC – Cove Point LNG Project;  
FERC – Downeast LNG Project;  
Court – Jones Act does not cover work-related stress;  
IMO – MSC 93; and  
UK – divers plead guilty to illegal salvaging.

May 16, 2014



# Bryant's Maritime News

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*Note: This newsletter is one section of the **Bryant's Maritime Consulting** website. Visit the site for more extensive maritime regulatory information. Individual concerns may be addressed by retaining **Dennis Bryant** 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. Everyone has a right to be stupid, but some abuse the privilege.*

## **MERPAC – teleconference meeting**



The Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC), sponsored by the US Coast Guard, will conduct a teleconference meeting on 10 June to discuss Task Statement 80 – crew training requirements for vessels subject to the IGF Code. **79 Fed. Reg. 28530** (May 16, 2014).

## **USCG – NBSAC members sought**



The US Coast Guard seeks applications for membership on the National Boating Safety Advisory Council (NBSAC). Applications should be received by 16 June. **79 Fed. Reg. 28531** (May 16, 2014).

## USCG – servicing of fire extinguishing systems



USCG recently issued three Marine Safety Information Bulletins (MSIBs) relating to the servicing of different marine fire extinguishing systems. The first concerns servicing requirements for fixed CO<sub>2</sub>/Halon systems. **MSIB 05-14** (4/4/14). The second concerns servicing requirements for pre-engineered clean agent fire extinguishing systems. **MSIB 06-14** (4/4/14). The third concerns servicing requirements for semi-portable marine fire extinguishers. **MSIB 07-14** (4/4/14). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my good friend Steve Jevnisek of **Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company**.*

## FERC – Cove Point LNG project



The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a **news release** announcing completion of the environmental assessment (EA) for the Cove Point Liquefaction Project. A public meeting will be held on 31 May in Lusby, Maryland. (5/15/14).

## FERC – Downeast LNG Project



The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a **news release** announcing completion of the environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Downeast LNG Project. (5/15/14).

## Court – Jones Act does not cover work-related stress



The US Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit ruled that a seafarer may not recover under the Jones Act for injuries allegedly incurred due to excessive work hours and an erratic sleep schedule. Relying on a decision of the US Supreme Court in a case involving the Federal Employer's Liability Act (on which the Jones Act is based), the court held that the Jones Act addresses injuries caused by physical invasions or menaces. Work-related stress is not a peril covered by the Jones Act. **Skye v. Maersk Line**, No. 12-16433 (11th Cir., May 15, 2014).

## IMO – MSC 93



The Secretary-General delivered the **Opening Address** at the 93rd Session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 93). (5/14/14).

## UK – divers plead guilty to illegal salvaging



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a **press release** stating that two divers from Kent have pleaded guilty to taking items from shipwrecks without declaring them. They admitted taking objects from a German World War I submarine and from an unknown vessel carrying East India Company cargo. (5/15/14).

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