

Headlines:

USCG & MARAD – Port Ambrose LNG DWP;
House – bill introduced re eLoran;
House – bill introduced re USCG commemorative coin;
House – bill introduced re foreign offshore units;
House – hearing re USCG missions;
House – members urge HMT appropriations;
Court – arbitration provision upheld; and
UK – certificates of insurance coverage.

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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. Stupidity is a gift of God, but I try to not misuse it.*

USCG & MARAD – Port Ambrose LNG DWP



The US Coast Guard, in coordination with the Maritime Administration (MARAD), sent a **letter** [located at http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/Port_Ambrose_Letter_of_Timeline_Suspension_150317.pdf] to Liberty Natural Gas, LLC stating that the agencies are suspending the timeline (“stop clock” for processing Liberty’s application for a final environmental impact statement (EIS) and determination of financial responsibility regarding the proposed Port Ambrose liquefied natural gas (LNG) deepwater port (DWP). Review of the many comments on the draft EIS continues. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has changed its pipeline burial depth requirement from seven feet to fifteen feet. The Clean Air Act-General Conformity is still being compiled and analyzed. Liberty’s financial responsibility data has yet to be submitted. (3/17/15).

House – bill introduced re eLoran



Representative Garamendi (D-CA) introduced a bill (H.R. 1678) to require the Secretary of Defense to establish a backup for the global positioning system, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Garamendi issued a [press release](#) [located at <http://garamendi.house.gov/press-release/garamendi-introduces-bipartisan-gps-backup-bill-safeguard-national-security-economy>] explaining the measure. (3/27/15). *Note: This item was first brought to my attention by my good friend Dana Goward of the [Association for Rescue at Sea](#).*

House – bill introduced re USCG commemorative coin



Representative Courtney (D-CT) introduced a bill (H.R. 1683) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the United States Coast Guard. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (3/26/15).

House – bill introduced re foreign offshore units



Representative Curbelo (R-FL) introduced a bill (H.R. 1684) to amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to impose penalties and provide for the recovery of removal costs and damages in connection with certain discharges of oil from foreign offshore units, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Curbelo issued a [press release](#) [located at <https://curbelo.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-curbelo-and-murphy-introduce-foreign-spill-protection-act>] explaining the measure. (3/26/15).

House – hearing re USCG missions



The Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will meet on 15 April for [An Overview of the U.S. Coast Guard's Missions](#). (3/27/15).

House – members urge HMT appropriations



Representative Boustany (R-LA) and other members of Congress sent a [Letter](#) [located at <http://boustany.house.gov/uploads/HMTF%20FY16%20Approps%20request%2>

003172015.pdf] to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Appropriations requesting that the Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) appropriations meet the targeted HMT levels as established by the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014. (3/17/15). *Note: This item was brought to my attention by my friend Sean Duffy of the **Big River Coalition**.*

Court – arbitration provision upheld



In an unpublished decision, the US Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit upheld a district court ruling that compelled plaintiff crew member to arbitrate his employment dispute in accordance with his employment contract. **Wong v. Carnival Corporation**, No. 14-10856 (11th Cir., March 27, 2015) [located at <http://media.ca11.uscourts.gov/opinions/unpub/files/201410856.pdf>].

UK – certificates of insurance coverage



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a **notice** [located at <https://www.gov.uk/certificate-of-proof-of-civil-or-passenger-liability-insurance>] reminding ship owners and operators of the requirement for valid certificates of proof of insurance. With regard to wreck removal insurance, MCA has received a high volume of applications in recent days. Applications for these certificates received after 14 March may not be processed by the 14 April deadline, except for vessels on the UK Ship Register, which receive priority processing. (3/26/15).

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

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