

Headlines:

DOJ – tug captain sentenced to prison;
USCG – NMC chat service;
DOE – Sabine Pass approved to export LNG;
EPA & USACE – waters of the United States;
Senate – bill introduced re multimodal freight; and
Senate – bill introduced to establish maritime heritage area.

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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. Those who don't study history may lose the opportunity to make original mistakes.

DOJ – tug captain sentenced to prison



The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a [news release](#) [located at http://www.justice.gov/usao/iln/pr/chicago/2015/pr0626_02.html] stating that the captain of the tug and barge on which a fatal explosion occurred in 2005 has been sentenced to six months in prison and the tug company has been sentenced to a criminal fine of \$5.3 million. The captain and the company were convicted of felony maritime negligence (also known as seaman's manslaughter) with regard to an explosion and fire on the tank barge EMC-423 in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal during which one crew member died and thousands of gallons of slurry oil were released into the waterway. (6/26/15).

USCG – NMC chat service



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued a **Bulletin** [located at http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/chat_services_update.pdf] stating that, beginning 1 July 2015, phase two of the NMC chat service will be available for use. Phase one involved use of a ticketing system for merchant mariners inquiring about applications. Phase two involves live online chat functionality. Customers will be able to communicate via computer with NMC customer service agents live and in real time. (6/25/15).

DOE – Sabine Pass approved to export LNG



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.energy.gov/articles/energy-department-authorizes-sabine-pass-liquefaction-s-expansion-project-export-liquefied>] stating that it has issued a final authorization for Sabine Pass Liquefaction, LLC's Expansion Project to export domestically produced liquefied natural gas (LNG). (6/26/15).

EPA & USACE – waters of the United States



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) promulgated a final rule defining the waters of the United States for purposes of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA), also referred to as the Clean Water Act. The rule enters into effect on 28 August. **80 Fed. Reg. 37053** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-06-29/pdf/2015-13435.pdf>] (6/29/15).

Senate – bill introduced re multimodal freight



Senator Cantwell (D-WA) introduced a bill (S. 1680) to improve the condition and performance of the national multimodal freight network, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Senator Cantwell issued a **press release** [located at <http://www.cantwell.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=94be52a1-acb1-442a-86f6-fa2855dba4e0>] explaining the measure. (6/25/15).

Senate – bill introduced to establish maritime heritage area



Senator Cantwell (D-WA) introduced the **Maritime Washington National Heritage Area Act** (S. 1623) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-114s1623is/pdf/BILLS-114s1623is.pdf>] to establish the Maritime Washington National Heritage Area in the State of Washington, and for other purposes. (6/18/15).

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

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