

Headlines:

Texas – barge collision and fire;
USCG – involvement in Arctic operations;
Arctic Ocean – joint SAR exercise;
USN – impacts of an ice-diminishing Arctic;
FERC – tidal power license extension;
Maryland – delegation of OCS air regulations;
CBP – quarterly interest rates; and
House – bill introduced re EEZ boundary.

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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. My train of thought left the station without me.

Texas – barge collision and fire



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2562090/>] stating that there was a collision at mile marker 349 on the Intracoastal Waterway near Bolivar Peninsula and a fire ensued. At about 0120, the eastbound tug Capt. Shorty C pushing two barges and the westbound tug Jackie pushing two barges collided. One of the barges, carrying approximately one million gallons of naphtha, ignited but the fire was later extinguished. It is not believed that any significant amount of product was released into the waterway. A [second news release](#) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2562922/>] states that the waterway was reopened after the barges were moved out of the channel. No injuries have been reported.

USCG – involvement in Arctic operations



The US Coast Guard posted remarks delivered by Admiral Paul Zukunft, Commandant, regarding [USCG involvement in Arctic operations](#). Topics included oversight of Shell Oil operations in the Chukchi Sea; collaborative work with other nations on Arctic issues; training for ice rescue operations; marine environmental protection; and Coast Guard icebreakers. (7/20/15).

Arctic Ocean – joint SAR exercise



The US Coast Guard issued a [news release](#) [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2561774/>] stating that a joint federal, state, municipal, and private sector search and rescue (SAR) drill was conducted in waters of the Arctic Ocean near Deadhorse, Alaska. The exercise included use of unmanned aircraft systems to locate the site of the simulated distress and relay images to response personnel. (7/20/15).

USN – impacts of an ice-diminishing Arctic



The US Navy issued a [news release](#) [located at http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=90222] stating that the service is undertaking new initiatives regarding the impacts of an ice-diminishing Arctic on maritime and naval operations. Among other things, it is studying the effects of changing Arctic conditions on low-frequency sound in the water; improved hull design for ice operations; and ice-phobic coatings to prevent ice from adhering to exposed materials. (7/20/15).

FERC – tidal power license extension



The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a notice stating that it received an application from Ocean Renewable Power Company seeking an extension of its license term for the Cobscook Bay Tidal Energy Project in Maine. Comments on the application must be received within 30 days. [80 Fed. Reg. 43082](#) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-07-21/pdf/2015-17787.pdf>] (7/21/15).

Maryland – delegation of OCS air regulations



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a notice stating that it has delegated to the State of Maryland authority to implement and enforce sections of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Air Regulations. **80 Fed. Reg. 43088** [located at] (7/21/15).

CBP – quarterly interest rates



The Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a notice stating that, for the calendar quarter beginning 1 July, the interest rates for overpayments will be 2% for corporation and 3% for non-corporations, and the interest rate for underpayments will be 3% for both. **80 Fed. Reg. 43102** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-07-21/pdf/2015-17820.pdf>] (7/21/15).

House – bill introduced re EEZ boundary



Representative Zeldin (R-NY) introduced the **EEZ Clarification Act** (H.R. 3070) [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-114hr3070ih/pdf/BILLS-114hr3070ih.pdf>] to clarify that for purposes of all Federal laws governing marine fisheries management, the landward boundary of the exclusive economic zone between areas south of Montauk, New York, and Point Judith, Rhode Island, and for other purposes. (7/15/15).

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

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