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USCG – initial findings re MV Fennica casualty;
USCG – Polar Code background and information;
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China – domestically-produced VTS; and
Singapore – LNG bunker supplier sought.

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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.

FEMA – PSGP allocation



The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a bulletin announcing the allocation of federal preparedness grants, including for the Port Security Grant Program (PSGP), which totals \$100 million for FY 2015.

Information Bulletin 405 [located at http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1438103635994-637d277a4ce5de2e3d86d2b41acb3a40/IB_405_FY_2015_Allocation_Announcement_Final.pdf]. (7/28/15).

USCG – seeking marine investigator



The US Coast Guard issued an **announcement** [located at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/411069000>] stating that it seeks to hire a non-supervisory marine investigator (GS-1801-12) at Corpus Christi. Applications must be received by 11 August. (7/28/15).

MARAD & USCG – LNG DWP EIS



The Maritime Administration (MARAD) issued a notice stating that it and the US Coast Guard intend to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) as part of the environmental review of the Delfin LNG LLC deepwater port (DWP) license application. Public meetings will be held in Lake Charles, LA (18 August) and Beaumont, TX (19 August). Comments must be received by 28 August. **80 Fed. Reg. 45270** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-07-29/pdf/2015-18594.pdf>] (7/29/15).

OSHA – shipyard seeks permanent variance



The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a notice stating that it received an application from Newport News Shipbuilding for a permanent variance from the prohibition against shipyard employers permitting workers to ride the hook or the load, from swinging or suspending loads over the heads of workers, and placing employees in a hazardous position between a swinging load and a fixed object while engaged in construction and assembly of modular ship sections. Comments on the application must be received by 28 August. **80 Fed. Reg. 45238** [located at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-07-29/pdf/2015-18468.pdf>] (7/29/15).

USCG – initial findings re MV Fennica casualty



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2572850/>] the initial findings of the investigation into the casualty suffered by the motor vessel Fennica in Dutch Harbor has been sent to the USCG Investigations National Center of Expertize for analysis. Initial information indicates that the vessel's charts were up to date; that the vessel's draft was 26.25 feet; that a subsequent survey revealed an uncharted shoal along the vessel's track; and that the vessel's master, mate, and pilot showed no evidence of drug or alcohol use. (7/28/15). *Note: This casualty demonstrates another difficulty regarding maritime operations in polar and near-polar waters – those waters are not well charted.*

USCG – Polar Code background and information



The US Coast Guard posted a **bulletin** providing background and update information regarding the IMO Polar Code. (7/28/15).

House – bill introduced re National Icebreaker Fund



Representative Hunter (R-CA) introduced a bill (H.R. 3214) to amend title 14, United States Code, to establish the National Icebreaker Fund to pay the costs of construction, alteration, renovation, lease, or charter of icebreakers for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (7/27/15).

House – hearing on 28 July



The Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure conducted a **hearing** [located at <http://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=399235>] regarding the Federal Radionavigation Plan, the Foreign Spill Protection Act of 2015, and the National Icebreaker Fund Act of 2015. Testimony was received from Mr. Gary Rasicot, USCG; Ms. Mary Landry, USCG; Ms. Karen Van Dyke, Department of Transportation; and Mr. Martin Faga. (7/24/15).

China – domestically-produced VTS



The Chinese Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) issued a **news release** [located at <http://en.msa.gov.cn/index.php?m=content&c=index&a=show&catid=336&id=163>] announcing development of a domestically-produced vessel traffic system (VTS). (7/28/15).

Singapore – LNG bunker supplier sought



The Singapore Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) issued a **news release** [located at http://www.mpa.gov.sg/sites/global_navigation/news_center/mpa_news/mpa_news_detail.page?filename=nr150728.xml] stating that a Request for Proposal (RFP) has been launched for interested parties to apply for a liquefied natural gas

(LNG) bunker supplier license. Proposals must be received by 30 September. (7/28/15).

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

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