

Headlines:

White House – appropriations bill signed into law;
USCG – US-build determination;
USCG & Alaska – mutual training agreement;
Court – ballast water management;
Washington – supervisor sought;
Ireland – sulphur content of marine fuels; and
Winter/Summer Solstice – 0449 UTC, 22 December 2015.

December 21, 2015



Bryant's Maritime News

Bryant's Maritime Consulting - 4845 SW 91st Way - Gainesville, FL 32608-8135 - USA

Tel: 1-352-692-5493 – Email: dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com – Internet: <http://brymar-consulting.com>

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. Plan to be spontaneous.

White House – appropriations bill signed into law



The White House issued a **news release** [located at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/12/18/statement-press-secretary-hr-2029>] stating that President Obama signed into law the **Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016** (H.R. 2019) [located at <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-114hr2029enr/pdf/BILLS-114hr2029enr.pdf>]. (12/18/15). *The bill includes the usual exchange of favors between political powerbrokers: some good, some bad. Among other things, it effectively repeals the ban on export of US-sourced crude oil and appropriates funds for construction of a ninth (and unrequested) National Security Cutter for the US Coast Guard. There are surely other gifts in the 887-page legislation waiting to be fully unwrapped and appreciated.*

USCG – US-build determination



The USCG National Vessel Documentation Center (NVDC) issued a **determination letter** [located at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/nvdc/rebuild/dredgetech2.pdf>] stating that incorporation of certain non-US manufactured items, including integrated machinery modules bolted to the main deck of the US-built dredges, would not adversely affect the status of those dredges as built in the United States. (12/16/15).

USCG & Alaska – mutual training agreement



The US Coast Guard issued a **news release** [located at <http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doc/4007/2768150/>] stating that a mutual training agreement has been developed with the Alaska Marine Highway System, allowing the two entities to train together and learn from each other. (12/18/15).

Court – ballast water management



The US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit issued an amended version of its October 5, 2015 decision regarding the challenge to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ballast water management provisions of its Vessel General Permit (VGP) program. The result remains the same, with those provisions deemed arbitrary and capricious, but allowed to remain in effect until new provisions can be promulgated. Frustratingly, the amended decision does not indicate what changes have been made in the text. **NRDC v EPA**, No. 13-1745(L) (2nd Cir., December 18, 2015) [located at].

Washington – supervisor sought



The Washington Department of Ecology issued an **announcement** [located at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/washington/jobs/1313571/plan-review-development-unit-supervisor-wms-band-1>] stating that it seeks qualified applicants for the position of Plan Review & Development Unit Supervisor. (12/18/15).

Ireland – sulphur content of marine fuels



The Irish Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport issued a notice providing concise guidance on compliance with the EU regulations regarding sulphur content of marine fuels. **Marine Notice 51-2015** [located at http://www.dttas.ie/sites/default/files/MN51of2015_EUSulphurContentofMarineFuels%20-%20v03.pdf] (12/16/15).

Winter/Summer Solstice – 0449 UTC, 22 December 2015



The solstice occurs at 0449 UTC (Universal Coordinated Time) on December 22, 2015. In the past, we might have used Greenwich Mean Time or GMT, but that is so 20th Century. For those in the Northern Hemisphere, this is the longest night of the year – hopefully you sleep well. For those in the Southern Hemisphere, this is the longest day of the year – hopefully you pace yourselves. For those in an alternate universe, rest easily.

Join our mailing list



If you are not receiving our almost daily electronic newsletter and would like have it sent directly to your email inbox, please right-click the box below and provide your email address.

Join Our Mailing List!



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

Dennis L. Bryant

Bryant's Maritime Consulting
4845 SW 91st Way
Gainesville, FL 32608-8135
USA

1-352-692-5493
dennis.l.bryant@gmail.com

<http://brymar-consulting.com>

© Dennis L. Bryant – December 2015

 Redistribution permitted with attribution