

Headlines:

CBP – transport of vessel equipment;
White House – US vessels and Cuba;
California – commercial harbor craft regulations;
BOEM – OCS EIS and ROD;
FMC – ro-ro limited joint procurement;
NTSB – allision report;
IMO – ‘connecting ships, ports, and people’; and
ReCAAP – 2016 annual report.

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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. Save the Earth – it's the only planet with chocolate!*

CBP – transport of vessel equipment



The US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) posted a **General Notice** stating that it proposes to modify and revoke previous ruling letters relating to the transport of vessel equipment between coastwise points. Comments on the proposal must be received by 17 February. (1/18/17) [http://www.brymar-consulting.com/wp-content/uploads/Misc/Proposed_ruling_170118.pdf]. *Note: This proposal is very similar to one made in 2009. It was eventually withdrawn in the face of strong industry opposition. I am of the opinion that such significant proposals to alter long-standing deserve full consideration through the Federal Register notice and comment process.*

White House – US vessels and Cuba



President Obama issued a notice continuing the national emergency with respect to Cuba and of the emergency authority relating to the regulation of the anchorage and movement of vessels. **82 Fed. Reg. 6185** (1/19/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-19/pdf/2017-01366.pdf>].

California – commercial harbor craft regulations



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a notice stating that it is granting the request of the California Air Resources Board regarding diesel-fueled engines on crew and supply, barge, and dredge vessels in the in-use engine emissions requirements of the commercial harbor craft regulations. Petitions for review must be filed by 20 March. **82 Fed. Reg. 6500** (1/19/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-19/pdf/2017-01261.pdf>].

BOEM – OCS EIS and ROD



The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) issued a notice stating that it completed the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). **82 Fed. Reg. 6643** (1/19/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-19/pdf/2017-00886.pdf>].

FMC – ro-ro limited joint procurement



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** stating that Commissioners have agreed to allow ro-ro vessels deployed in services covered by the WWL/EUKOR/ARC/Glovis Cooperative Working Agreement to engage in joint negotiation for procurement of tug services at all US ports beginning 23 January. (1/19/17) [http://www.fmc.gov/ro-ro_carriers_limited_joint_procurement_authority/].

NTSB – allision report



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued the report of its investigation of the 31 January 2016 allision of the bulk carrier Aris T with a tank barge, a towing vessel, and two facility structures, all of which were located on the left descending bank of the Mississippi River between mile marker (mm)

125.2 and mm 126.0 at Norco, Louisiana. Also damaged during the collision were one additional shoreside structure, another towing vessel, and two other tank barges, bringing the total damage cost to more than \$60 million. No pollution resulted from the accident; however, two dock workers reported injuries. The NTSB determined that the probable cause of the casualty was the failure of the pilot on the Aris T to take early and effective action to mitigate the risk presented by the developing upriver traffic situation. **MAB 17-01** (1/19/17) [<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/MAB1701.pdf>].

IMO – ‘Connecting ships, ports, and people’



The IMO issued a **news release** stating that the theme for World Maritime Day 2017 will be ‘Connecting ships, ports, and people’. (1/19/17) [<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/07-WMD-2017-launch.aspx>].

ReCAAP – 2016 annual report



The ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre posted its **2016 Annual Report**. It states that reports of incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia were down 58% in 2016 compared to 2015. Concern remains, though, over the situation in the Sulu-Celebes Sea and waters off eastern Sabah. (1/19/17) [http://www.recaap.org/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/Download.aspx?Command=Core_Download&EntryId=473&PortalId=0&TabId=78].

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