

Headlines:

USCG – BWM extension program update;
USCG – NMC course approval update;
Jacksonville – LNG facility;
FMC – regulatory burdens to be eased;
DOT – MV Liberty Passion welcomed to MSP;
House – bill introduced re US vessel carriage;
House – bill introduced re navigable waters; and
Court – insurance coverage dispute.

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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. Common sense is a flower that doesn't grow in everyone's garden.*

USCG – BWM extension program update



The US Coast Guard issued a Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) updating the Ballast Water Management (BWM) Extension Program. If a type-approved BWM system is not available for a vessel, and compliance with the other approved BWM methods is not possible, the vessel owner/operator may apply for an extension of the vessel's compliance date. **MSIB 03-17** (3/6/17) [https://www.uscg.mil/msib/docs/003_17_3-6-2017.pdf].

USCG – NMC course approval update



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) **bulletin** stating that its course and program approval request inventory has been reduced to a reasonable

level. (3/6/17)

[https://www.uscg.mil/nmc/announcements/pdfs/course_approvals_inventory_final_update.pdf].

Jacksonville – LNG facility



The US Coast Guard issued a notice stating that it received a Letter of Intent (LOI) and Waterways Suitability Assessment (WSA) for a liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility construction project in Jacksonville. Comments must be received by 6 April. [82 Fed. Reg. 12822](#) (3/7/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-03-07/pdf/2017-04380.pdf>].

FMC – regulatory burdens to be eased



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a [news release](#) stating that the Commissioners voted to amend the rules involving Service Contracts and NVOCC Service Arrangements in order to ease regulatory burdens and make the agency's rules more consistent with how the ocean shipping business is now practiced. (3/6/17) [http://www.fmc.gov/NR17_03/].

DOT – MV Liberty Passion welcomed to MSP



The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a [press release](#) welcoming the US-flag vehicle carrier Liberty Passion to the Maritime Security Program (MSP). (3/3/17) [<https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/dot2317>].

House – bill introduced re US vessel carriage



Representative Garamendi (D-CA) introduced the [Energizing American Maritime Act](#) (H.R. 1240) to require a certain percentage of liquefied natural gas and crude oil exports be transported on vessels documented under the laws of the United States, and for other purposes. (2/28/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr1240ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr1240ih.pdf>].

House – bill introduced re navigable waters



Representative Thornberry (R-TX) introduced the **Federal Regulatory Certainty for Water Act** (H.R. 1261) to clarify the definition of navigable waters, and for other purposes. (2/28/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr1261ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr1261ih.pdf>].

Court – insurance coverage dispute



The US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled in favor of the insured in an insurance coverage dispute with its insurer. The dispute involved a personal injury lawsuit brought by the insured's employee against three other companies with which the insured had a master services contract. **Richard v. Anadarko Petroleum**, No. 16-30216 (5th Cir., March 2, 2017) [<http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/opinions/pub/16/16-30216-CVO.pdf>].

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