

Headlines:

FMC – Tripartite Agreement rejected;
US & Canada – personal flotation device standards;
USN – unmanned maritime systems training;
CMTS – maritime and water infrastructure needs;
DOI – Offshore Energy Strategy;
House – bill introduce re drilling offshore Russia;
Senate – bill introduced re OCS leasing; and
Washington – environmental review of proposed coal terminal.

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Bryant's Maritime News

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FMC – Tripartite Agreement rejected



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a **news release** stating that it rejected on jurisdictional grounds the proposed Tripartite Agreement (FMC Agreement No. 012475), an agreement between K Line, MOL and NYK. The parties were seeking authority to share information with each other in advance of a new business entity being formed under the agreement next year. The FMC concluded that the parties were ultimately establishing a new merged entity and that the FMC lacks authority to review and approve mergers. (5/2/17) [<https://www.fmc.gov/NR17-09/>].

US & Canada – personal flotation device standards



The US Coast Guard issued a **bulletin** stating that the UL Standards Technical Panel (STP) 1123 for Personal Flotation Devices held

a task group meeting at Coast Guard Headquarters on 10-13 April. Representatives from the US Coast Guard and Transport Canada were in attendance. The task group is drafting new bi-national standards for immersion suits and lifejackets for use on US and Canadian commercial vessels. (5/2/17) [<http://mariners.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2017/05/02/522017-us-canadian-personal-flotation-device-task-group-meeting-recap/>].

USN – unmanned maritime systems training



The US Navy issued a **news release** stating that fifteen students have begun classes the successful completion of will lead to certification in unmanned maritime systems (UMS). The program includes, but is not limited to, nautical science, 3-D positioning, ocean policy, autonomous systems. (5/2/17) [http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=100218].

CMTS – maritime and water infrastructure needs



The **Committee on the Marine Transportation System (CMTS)** posted on its Bulletin Board two upcoming events. “Maritime Infrastructure Needs of the Nation” will be held on 16 May in Washington, DC and via live streaming. Three Ted-like talks related to infrastructure, safety, and innovation will be presented by representatives from an inland port city, the US Coast Guard, and the USDOT Office of Policy. “Water Infrastructure Roundtable will be held on 19 May in Washington, DC and via live streaming. It is co-sponsored with the National Water Infrastructure Working Group and joined by representatives from the US Army Corps of Engineers, the US Bureau of Reclamation, and the US Environmental Protection Agency. (5/2/17) [<http://www.cmts.gov/>].

DOI – Offshore Energy Strategy



The Department of the Interior (DOI) issued a **press release** stating that Secretary Zinke signed two orders implementing the America-First Offshore Energy Strategy. (5/1/17) [<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-zinke-signs-orders-implementing-america-first-offshore-energy-strategy>].

House – bill introduced re drilling offshore Russia



Representative Waters (D-CA) introduced the **No Russia Exemptions for Oil Production Act** (H.R. 2145) to prohibit licenses or other authorization for

United States persons to engage in activities relating to deepwater, Arctic offshore, or shale projects that have the potential to produce oil in the Russian Federation, or in maritime area claimed by the Russian Federation, and for other purposes. (4/25/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115hr2145ih/pdf/BILLS-115hr2145ih.pdf>].

Senate – bill introduced re OCS leasing



Senator Cassidy (R-LA) introduced the **Outer Continental Shelf Energy Access Now (OCEAN) Act** (S. 956) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to limit the authority of the President to withdraw areas from oil and gas leasing, and for other purposes. Senator Cassidy issued a **press release** explaining the measure. (4/27/17) [<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-115s956is/pdf/BILLS-115s956is.pdf>].

Washington – environmental review of proposed coal terminal



The Washington Department of Ecology issued a **news release** stating that the environmental review for the largest proposed coal export terminal in North America has been completed. The proposed Millennium Bulk Terminals project near Longview on the Columbia River would move 44 million metric tons of coal annually and increase ship transits by 1,680 annually. The review will be used by various agencies to consider the more than 20 permits needed for the terminal to become operational. (4/28/17) [<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2017/039.html>].

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