

## Headlines:

USCG – updated NMC mitigation efforts;  
St. Lawrence Seaway – 1% toll increase;  
St. Lawrence Seaway – 1% wharfage charge increase;  
DOE - \$25 million for marine energy research projects;  
House – bill introduced re offshore CA drilling;  
House – bill introduced re offshore FL drilling;  
House – bill introduced re drilling offshore New England;  
House – bill introduced re drilling off East Coast;  
House – bill introduced re drilling in Arctic Ocean;  
House – bill introduced re drilling off Pacific Coast;  
EC – disembarkation of migrants;  
EC – taxation of ports by Italy & Spain; and  
Malta – deballasting mishap.

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# Bryant's Maritime News

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## **USCG – updated NMC mitigation efforts**



The USCG National Maritime Center (NMC) issued an **updated bulletin** concerning mitigation efforts being undertaken due to the lapse in FY2019 appropriations. In addition to those identified in the 4 January bulletin, medical certificates of merchant mariners that expired in December 2018 or expire in January 2019 are extended as valid until 31 March 2019. Course approval extension requests should be emailed to the NMC. (1/8/19)  
[[https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/announcements/2018/fiscal\\_y](https://www.dco.uscg.mil/Portals/9/NMC/pdfs/announcements/2018/fiscal_y)

ear\_appropriations\_mitigation\_update\_20190108.pdf?ver=2019-01-08-171356-060].

### St. Lawrence Seaway – 1% toll increase



The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway Authority issued an **advisory** stating that the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation (SLSMC) is instituting a toll rate increase of 1.0% for the 2019 navigation season. (1/9/19) [<http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/news/customer-advisories/advisories/ca20190109b.html>].

### St. Lawrence Seaway – 1% wharfage charge increase



The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway Authority issued an **advisory** stating that the St. Lawrence Seaway Wharfage and Storage Charges have been revised for the 2019 navigation season with an increase of 1%. (1/9/19) [<http://www.greatlakes-seaway.com/en/news/customer-advisories/advisories/ca20190109a.html>].

### DOE – \$25 million for marine energy research projects



The Department of Energy (DOE) issued a **news release** stating that \$25 million has been awarded for next-generation marine energy research projects. Marine energy includes ocean wave power, tidal, and river/ocean current devices that convert movement of water into electricity. (1/8/19) [<https://www.energy.gov/articles/us-department-energy-awards-25-million-next-generation-marine-energy-research-projects>].

### House – bill introduced re offshore CA drilling



Representative Carbajal (D-CA) introduced a bill (H.R. 279) to permanently prohibit oil and gas leasing off the coast of the State of California, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (1/8/19).

### House – bill introduced re offshore FL drilling



Representative Castor (D-FL) introduced a bill (H.R. 286) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas preleasing, leasing, and related activities in certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast

of Florida, and for other purposes. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Castor issued a [news release](#) explaining the measure. (1/8/19) [<https://castor.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=398861>].

### House – bill introduced re drilling offshore New England



Representative Cicilline (D-RI) introduced a bill (H.R. 287) to prohibit oil and gas leasing on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of New England. Official text of the bill is not yet available. (1/8/19).

### House – bill introduced re drilling off East Coast



Representative Cunningham (D-SC) introduced a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to place a ten-year moratorium on oil and gas preleasing, leasing, and related activities on the Outer Continental Shelf in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas and in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico. Official text of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Cunningham issued a [press release](#) explaining the measure. (1/8/19) [<https://cunningham.house.gov/media/press-releases/congressman-cunningham-introduces-bill-ban-offshore-drilling-atlantic-coast>].

### House – bill introduced re drilling in Arctic Ocean



Representative Huffman (D-CA) introduced a bill (H.R. 309) to prohibit drilling in the Arctic Ocean. Official test of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Huffman issued a [press release](#) explaining the measure. (1/8/19) [<https://huffman.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-huffman-introduces-bills-to-protect-pacific-arctic-oceans-from>].

### House – bill introduced re drilling off Pacific Coast



Representative Huffman (D-CA) introduced a bill (H.R. 310) to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington. Official test of the bill is not yet available, but Representative Huffman issued a [press release](#) explaining the measure. (1/8/19) [<https://huffman.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-huffman-introduces-bills-to-protect-pacific-arctic-oceans-from>].

## EC – disembarkation of migrants



The European Commission (EC) issued a **press release** stating that a solution has been found with regard to the disembarkation of migrants from certain vessels and relocation to Member States for processing. (1/9/19) [[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_SPEECH-19-304\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_SPEECH-19-304_en.htm)]. *Note: This ongoing situation brings to mind the 2001 **Tampa Incident** when the Australian Government refused entry to a merchant vessel with over 400 rescued refugees.*

## EC – taxation of ports by Italy & Spain



The European Commission (EC) issued a **press release** stating that it has adopted two decisions recommending that Italy and Spain align their taxation of ports with State aid rules. (1/8/19) [[http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_IP-19-241\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-19-241_en.htm)].

## Malta – deballasting mishap



The Transport Malta issued the interim report on its investigation into the partial flooding of the engine room on board a bulk carrier while alongside at Dampier, Australia on 26 December 2017. During deballasting operations, a ballast pump strainer cover and a ballast valve appear to have been damaged, allowing ingress of seawater into the engine room. A number of electrical motors, switchboards, and cabling were damaged. **Interim Report 24-2018** (1/9/19)

[[https://mtip.gov.mt/en/msiu/Documents/MV%20Capri\\_Interim%20Safety%20Investigation%20Report.pdf](https://mtip.gov.mt/en/msiu/Documents/MV%20Capri_Interim%20Safety%20Investigation%20Report.pdf)].

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