

Headlines:

OFAC – sanctions re Venezuela;
FMC – Louis Sola & Daniel Maffei sworn in;
House – bill introduced re drilling off East Coast;
House – bill introduced re drilling in Arctic Ocean;
House – bill introduced re drilling off Pacific Coast;
House – bill introduced to combat lionfish;
Australia – flooding during ballast water exchange;
UK – MARPOL Annex I amendments; and
UK – boosting diversity in the maritime industry.

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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. 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. Due to the current economic conditions, the light at the end of the tunnel has been turned off.*

OFAC – sanctions re Venezuela



The Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) issued **General License No. 12** authorizing, until 28 April, the purchase and importation into the United States of petroleum and petroleum products from Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PdVSA) or any entity in which PdVSA owns, directly or indirectly, a 50% or greater interest. Any payment to or for the direct or indirect benefit of a blocked person must be made into a blocked, interest-bearing account located in the United States. (1/28/19) [https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Documents/venezuela_gl12.pdf].

FMC – Louis Sola & Daniel Maffei sworn in



The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued a [news release](#) stating that Louis E. Sola and Daniel B. Maffei have been sworn in as Commissioners. (1/28/19)
[https://www.fmc.gov/fmc_welcomes_commissioners_sola_and_maffei/].

House – bill introduced re drilling off East Coast



Representative Cunningham (D-SC) introduced the [Coastal Economies Protection Act](#) (H.R. 291) 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. Representative Cunningham issued a [press release](#) explaining the measure. (1/8/19) [<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-116hr291ih/pdf/BILLS-116hr291ih.pdf>].

House – bill introduced re drilling in Arctic Ocean



Representative Huffman (D-CA) introduced the [Stop Arctic Ocean Drilling Act of 2019](#) (H.R. 309) to prohibit drilling in the Arctic Ocean. Representative Huffman issued a [press release](#) explaining the measure. (1/8/19)
[<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-116hr309ih/pdf/BILLS-116hr309ih.pdf>].

House – bill introduced re drilling off Pacific Coast



Representative Huffman (D-CA) introduced the [West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2019](#) (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. Representative Huffman issued a [press release](#) explaining the measure. (1/8/19)
[<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-116hr310ih/pdf/BILLS-116hr310ih.pdf>].

House – bill introduced to combat lionfish



Representative Soto (D-FL) introduced a bill (**H.R. 417**) to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish measures to combat invasive lionfish, and for other purposes. (1/9/19) [<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/BILLS-116hr417ih/pdf/BILLS-116hr417ih.pdf>].

Australia – flooding during ballast water exchange



The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) issued the report of its investigation of the partial flooding of a freighter. During routine ballast water exchange, a request for closure of a manual valve was not acknowledged or actioned. As a result, a ballast tank overflowed. The overflow entered a space that had an undetected corrosion opening, allowing flooding of the engine room. **Report 2018-003** (1/25/19) [http://www.atsb.gov.au/media/5775554/mo-2018-003_final.pdf].

UK – MARPOL Annex I amendments



The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) issued a Marine Information Note (MIN) providing guidance on compliance with amendments since 2004 to MARPOL Annex I. **MIN 585(M)** (1/28/19) [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/774045/MIN_585_M_.pdf]. *Note: The references throughout to MSC Resolutions should have been to MEPC Resolutions. The resolution numbers, though, are correct.*

UK – boosting diversity in the maritime industry



The UK Department for Transport (DfT) posted the **speech** delivered by Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport Nusrat Ghani, MP concerning boosting diversity in the maritime industry. (1/28/19) [<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/boosting-diversity-in-the-maritime-industry>].

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