

SUBJ: BROADCAST NOTICE TO MARINERS

SAFETY BCST PLUS SCHED BCST FM 2155 CDT 15 OCT 09 UNTIL CANCELLED
U.S.C.G. SECTOR LAKE MICHIGAN NOTICE TO MARINERS M490-09 IL - CHICAGO
SANITARY AND SHIP CHANNEL - MILE MARKER 296.0

1. THE COAST GUARD HAS ESTABLISHED A SAFETY ZONE ON THE CHICAGO SANITARY AND SHIP CANAL BETWEEN MILE MARKERS 296.0 AND 296.7 TO RESTRICT PASSAGE OF VESSELS ACROSS THE ELECTRICAL DISPERSAL BARRIER.
2. VESSELS GREATER THAN TWENTY FEET IN LENGTH MAY TRANSIT THE SAFETY ZONE IF GRANTED PERMISSION BY THE CAPTAIN OF THE PORT'S REPRESENTATIVE AT (630) 336-0296 OR CHANNEL 16 VHF USING CALL SIGN MSU-1. THE COAST GUARD CAUTIONS MARINERS THAT THE WATER INSIDE THE BARRIER IS ELECTRIFIED, AND CONTACT WITH THIS WATER COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH. IF A PERSON OR OBJECT FALLS OVERBOARD INTO THE ELECTRIFIED WATER, MARINERS SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT RECOVERY UNTIL THE PERSON OR OBJECT IS 450 FEET SOUTH OF THE EAST ROMEO ROAD BRIDGE. PERSONNEL SHOULD AVOID CONTACT WITH ANYTHING OUTSIDE OF THE VESSEL'S HULL INCLUDING THE CANAL WALLS AND OTHER VESSELS, EITHER DIRECTLY OR WITH AN INSTRUMENT SUCH AS A PADDLE OR A BOAT HOOK.
3. VESSELS LESS THAN TWENTY FEET IN LENGTH WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TRANSIT THE SAFETY ZONE.
4. TOWING VESSELS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS: NUMBER ONE - ALL TOW VESSELS AND BARGES MUST USE STEEL WIRE ROPE, NO ALTERNATE LINE ALLOWED. NUMBER TWO - ALL PERSONNEL MUST REMAIN INSIDE A DECKHOUSE OR SUPERSTRUCTURE DURING THE TRANSIT. NUMBER THREE - TOWS CONSISTING OF BARGES CARRYING FLAMMABLE LIQUID CARGOS (GRADE A THROUGH C, FLASH POINT BELOW 140 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT, OR HEATED TO WITHIN 15 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT OF FLASH POINT) MUST ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF A BOW BOAT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE TRANSIT.
5. NON-TOWING VESSEL TRANSITS WILL ONLY BE AUTHORIZED AFTER CONFIRMING THAT ALL THE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN CONVEYED TO THE VESSEL OPERATOR. NON-TOWING VESSEL OPERATORS MUST CONTACT THE USCG BOAT CREW TO COMMUNICATE THESE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS. ALL PERSONNEL ON BOARD SHALL WEAR A COAST GUARD APPROVED PERSONAL FLOATATION DEVICE.
6. ALL VESSELS MUST COMPLY WITH ANY OTHER REQUIREMENT OR CONDITION IMPOSED BY THE CAPTAIN OF THE PORT'S REPRESENTATIVE. VIOLATION OF THIS SAFETY ZONE IS PUNISHABLE BY A MAXIMUM CIVIL PENALTY OF \$32,500 FOR EACH VIOLATION. A WILLFUL VIOLATION OF THE SAFETY ZONE MAY ALSO CONSTITUTE COMMISSION OF A CLASS D FELONY. A CLASS D FELONY IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF NO MORE THAN \$250,000 AND OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 6 YEARS.
7. IF YOU HAVE ANY GENERAL QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THE SAFETY ZONE, CONTACT THE NINTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE AT (216) 902-6020. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE OPERATION OF THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS DISPERSAL BARRIER, CONTACT THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER AT (312) 846-5330.