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August 9, 2013

### MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 07-13

#### Requirements for Tank Vessels Conducting Lightering Operations in the Western Alaska Captain of the Port Zone

- Ref: (a) Western Alaska Alternative Planning Criteria (WA-APC-T) approved July 31, 2013  
(b) Alaska Petroleum Distributors and Transporters (APD&T) APC approved May 10, 2010  
(c) 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 155

With the renewal of the WA-APC-T for tank vessels, it is important that all tank vessel owners and operators planning lightering operations in the Western Alaska Captain of the Port Zone understand the requirements that must be met to safely conduct lightering operations.

Effective immediately, all tank vessels planning to conduct lightering operations in the Western Alaska Captain of the Port Zone must complete the Sector Anchorage Lightering Form demonstrating compliance with the following criteria prior to conducting the proposed operation:

1. Vessels must be a current member of the WA-APC-T for tank vessel and secondary cargo carriers or the APD&T APC for tank barges.
2. Vessels must have a valid Vessel Response Plan (VRP) with a Geographic Specific Appendix (GSA) for Western Alaska.
3. If the operation is a tank vessel to tank vessel lighter, one of the vessels must have equivalent equipment to that listed in Section 6.1.1 of the APD&T APC for on board response resources.

Vessels must submit the Sector Anchorage Lightering Form for review to the following email address [sectoranchoragearrivals@uscg.mil](mailto:sectoranchoragearrivals@uscg.mil) at a minimum of 48 hours prior to the operation. Following satisfactory review by this office, a copy of the form will be stamped "reviewed" and returned to the submitter to be maintained on board the vessel in accordance with the WA-APC-T operating procedures.

For copies of the approved WA-APC-T, APD&T APC, and/or the Sector Anchorage Lightering Plan Form you can visit the Sector Anchorage website at:  
<http://www.uscg.mil/d17/sectoranchorage/industry.asp>.

Please contact LT Ryan Butler at (907) 271-6956 with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. L. Johnson".

S. L. JOHNSON  
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard  
Chief, Prevention Department  
By Direction