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Information Collection for Jones Act Vessel Availability Determination

Note: This Notice to the Trade is to be sent as an e-mail in a systematic fashion to allow respondents an equal opportunity—that is, no initial e-mail to a respondent is contingent upon the response of another respondent—to respond to the collection. MARAD is to contact respondents without e-mail via telephone using the same Notice to the Trade script. In the event MARAD collects this information for scenario planning purposes, this information may be collected exclusively through telephonic communications, though the same information will be requested of respondents.

(Example of Typical) Notice to the Trade:

A requirement has arisen for the carriage of _____ from _____ to _____ on or about [DATE] or with a required (loading or delivery) date of _____. ([As necessary] The expected cargo has the following characteristics which (may) require specialized vessel features or cargo-handling capability: _____ [AND/OR] The loading or discharge ports or terminals have the following limitations or restrictions:_____.)

Unless US coastwise-qualified carriage is determined to be available and the Maritime Administration so advises the Department of Homeland Security, DHS may issue a waiver of the Jones Act under Title 46, United States Code, section 501(b), to permit carriage of this cargo by (a) non-coastwise-qualified vessel(s).

Do you own or operate (a) Jones Act coastwise-qualified vessel(s), or have knowledge concerning such (a) vessel(s) that (is/are) capable of effecting and available to effect the required carriage?

Pertaining to such vessel(s), please provide the name and contact information for the owner, operating manager or broker, the name and registration number, the current location and location expected on [DATE], maximum draft, length, beam, maximum speed, capacity, whether the vessel is under charter, and (specified special characteristics [or] conformity to stated port or terminal limitations or restrictions.)

To be considered in the section 501(b) availability determination process, responses should be received by the Maritime Administration by [DATE/TIME]. Please reply to [NAME] of the Maritime Administration Office of Cargo Preference and Domestic Trade at 202-366-[xxxx] or email [NAME]@dot.gov.