

**Summary from the August 11, 2020, Coast Guard Public Meeting
Northern New York Bight Port Access Route Study (NNYBPARS)**

Docket No. USCG-2020-0278

Teleconference and Webinar

Purpose: This was the second of two scheduled virtual public meetings held via webinar and teleconference regarding the Northern New York Bight Port Access Route Study (NNYBPARS). The public was invited to provide oral comments about this study. Attendees either preregistered to make oral comments or signed up to make oral comments during the meeting.

These public meetings were held virtually to remain consistent with the Presidential Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak and state and local stay-at home directives. The United States Coast Guard is supportive of holding public meetings virtually in order to continue to provide meaningful public participation and engagement during the current circumstances.

The meeting was called to order by facilitator LT Rebecca Blanchflower of the First Coast Guard District Waterways Management Division at 6 p.m. EST. LT Blanchflower welcomed all in attendance, introduced herself, reviewed the meeting agenda and ground rules, and introduced Captain Richard Schultz, Chief of Prevention, First Coast Guard District.

Captain Schultz provided an introduction to the Northern New York Bight PARS and stated the Coast Guard is “conducting a Port Access Route Study of this area with the goal to enhance navigational safety by examining existing shipping routes and waterway uses.” He referenced our announcement of the NNYBPARS in a notice published in the Federal Register on June 29, 2020 (85 FR 38907). He then stated the eight objectives of the study as follows:

1. Determine present vessel traffic types, patterns, and density;
2. Determine potential vessel traffic types, patterns, and density;
3. Determine if existing vessel routing measures are adequate;
4. Determine if existing vessel routing measures require modifications;
5. Determine the type of modifications, if any;
6. Define and justify the needs for any proposed vessel routing measures;
7. Determine the type of new vessel routing measures if any; and
8. Determine if the usage of the vessel routing measures should be mandatory for specific classes of vessels.

The single person making a public comment was introduced by Facilitator LT Rebecca Blanchflower of the First Coast Guard District Waterways Management Division. The member making a comment was Doug Schneider (World Shipping Council).

There were no other requests to make comments and no questions asked of the Coast Guard. The comment period was closed by LT Rebecca Blanchflower and the meeting was closed by CAPT Richard Schultz.

A full audio recording of this meeting can be found at <https://www.regulations.gov> under docket number “USCG-2020-0278” in the ”supporting documents” section titled “USCG Public Meeting Audio August 11 2020”.

Attendance:

1. Christen Wittman (EnBW North America Permitting & Development Director)
2. Doug Schneider (World Shipping Council)
3. Ed LeBlanc (Orsted)
4. Elizabeth Marchetti
5. Greg Hitchen (U.S. Coast Guard)
6. Jerry Barnes (U.S. Coast Guard)
7. John Frank
8. Julia Lewis (Equinor)
9. J. Williams (CLIA)
10. Kathryn White (Ecology and Environment Inc.)
11. Michael Shaw (EnBW North America)
12. Nate Mayo
13. Noah Chesnin
14. Sheri Lauten (National Grid Ventures)
15. Stephen Drew
16. Tyler Johnson
17. Unknown Phone Caller
18. Unknown Phone Caller
19. Unknown Phone Caller