UNITED STATES COAST GUARD (USCG)

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TOWING SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TSAC)

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FALL 2016 MEETING

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THURSDAY

OCTOBER 27, 2016

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The Committee met in the Oklahoma

Rooms, U.S. Department of Transportation Headquarters, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C., at 8:30 a.m., Steven Huttman, Chairman, presiding.

PRESENT

STEVEN HUTTMAN, Barge & Towing (B&T), Chairman ERIC JOHANSSON, Port Districts, Authorities & Terminal Operators (PDATO), Vice Chairman MICHAEL CALIENDO, B&T, Great Lakes STEVEN KRESS, B&T, Northeast MATTHEW LAGARDE, B&T, Rivers JILL TAFT, B&T, Southeast Coast

CHRIS MYSKOWSKI, B&T

MICHAEL VITT, [Active] Masters of Ship Docking

or Harbor Towing Vessels

DONALD SOUTHWORTH, Masters of Ship Docking or

Harbor Towing Vessels

RAYMOND RICHMOND, Masters of Pilot or Towing

Vessels

LAURA WILCOX, Credentialed Engineers of Towing Vessels

BRIAN GUIDRY, Offshore, Mineral & Oil Supply

Vessel IndustryJOY TERRAL, Port District,

Authorities, &

Terminal Operators (PDATO)

JERRY CROOKS, JR., Shipper, Oil

MIKE FEWELL, Shipper

MICHAEL RUSHING, General Public

JO ANN SALYERS, General Public

ALSO PRESENT

PAUL N. JAENICHEN, Maritime Administrator CAPT VERNE GIFFORD, USCG Director of Inspections and Compliance CDR JOSE PEREZ, USCG, Designated Federal Officer WILLIAM J. ABERNATHY, Alternate Designated Federal Officer LCDR WILLIAM A. NABACH, USCG, Alternate Designated Federal Officer KEN BEATTY, Wilmington Towing, Inc. ALAN L. BISH, Reinauer Transportation TINA CARDONE, C-PORT KEVIN COLEMAN, MARAD RON CORIGLIANO, Campbell Transportation Company Z. DAVID DELOACH, DeLoach Marine JOHN FRANCIC, ABS JERRY GALLION, Kirby Corporation LUKE HARDEN, USCG CAITLIN HARDY, Foss Maritime TERENCE HOUSTON, AWO CAPT JIM JENKINS, USCG, MARAD CAPT SCOTT KELLY, USCG MATT KENT, AWO KEVIN KOHLMANN, MARAD SCOTT KUHANECK, USCG GEORGE LEAVELL, Wepfer Marine RAY LECHNER, USCG PATRICK LEE PATRICK LITTLE, Buffalo Marine Service, Inc. COURTNEY MALLON, USCG JULIO MARTINEZ, USCG IAN MCVICKER, ABS TOM MCWHORTER, Maritime Services Group of Louisiana GREG MENKE, Evansville Marine Service LEE NELSON, Upper River Services FRED NYHUIS, Marathon Petroleum EDWARD PINNER, Crescent Towing JOHN QUINN, MARAD SEAN REILLY, Southern Towing Company

ALSO PRESENT: (CONT.)

TRACI SILAS, DHS/FACA CAITLYN STEWART, AWO TOM SULLIVAN, Northstar Midstream KEVIN TONE, USCG CDR JACIE TWOMEY, USCG LCDR MATTHEW WALTER, USCG JASON WISNESKI, Dann Marine Towing RICHARD WELLS, OMSA

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1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	8:37 a.m.
3	INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME
4	DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICERS
5	CDR. PEREZ: Good morning, again.
6	Welcome to the full TSAC meeting. My name is
7	Jose Perez. I work at the Coast Guard
8	Headquarters at the Office of Environmental and
9	Operating Standards. I'd like to welcome, again,
10	for the second day of these proceedings.
11	Yesterday, we had a really interesting
12	day, a lot of discussion about our subcommittees
13	and their work. Overall I would like to say
14	thank you for the participation, for the
15	comments, thank you for the members of the
16	committee and the general public, and thank you
17	for volunteering to become members of the actual
18	subcommittees that were conducting work.
19	We encourage, at any time, to join us,
20	talk to the subcommittee chairs, and then become
21	an active member. Make sure that you provide
22	your comments, your feedback, and your expert

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insight in relationship to the actual live tasks 1 2 and stuff we've got going on right now. Today, we have a really, really interesting agenda, a 3 lot of topics, a lot of presentations. 4 We do have some distinguished guests. We will have 5 quick remarks by Captain Kelly, our executive 6 7 sponsor. We do have the presence of Captain Gifford, and he's going to be presenting some 8 9 remarks about current implementation of efforts 10 for Subchapter M. We also have the Maritime 11 Administration, the administrator's going to be 12 13 here, join us for a little bit, at 9:00, and he's going to present some remarks and share some of 14 15 the common collaborations that we have going on 16 right now between MARAD and Coast Guard. Then we're going to have the actual presentation of 17 18 the subcommittees. We do have quite a few of 19 them.

20 One of them is in terms of 21 implementation of Subchapter M, another working 22 on tilbury tug barge operations electronic

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charting system, firefighting training 1 2 requirements for officers, and then we'll be presenting the new task statement -- it was 3 finally vetted and cleared by the committee 4 yesterday -- in relationship of towing of LNG 5 barges and risks pertaining to those operations. 6 7 Just quick remarks from that part. We do have a microphone in the back, right there on the table. 8 9 What I would like for our comments and for 10 general public and members of the TSAC, whenever 11 you want to make a comment, please come forward, 12 grab the microphone, and state your name and your 13 title. This is because today is a public meeting, and we do have a court reporter. 14 15 He's recording all the comments for 16 the record, so we need to know who are you and your title and what is your comments. 17 Same thing 18 for members of the TSAC. Any time you ask a

the record, so we need to know who are you and your title and what is your comments. Same thing for members of the TSAC. Any time you ask a question or make a comment, please state your name and your title, so we can have it on the record. Mr. Abernathy, if you can raise your hand for people who doesn't know him. He's back

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there, has sign-in sheets.

2	It's really crucial that we record the
3	name and the title of all the participants of the
4	meeting. If you haven't signed in, please do so.
5	We do have a break a little bit later on, so
6	please take advantage of that break and sign in.
7	At 11:30, we will be breaking for lunch. At that
8	time, the general public, feel free to utilize
9	the cafeteria here. They have a really
10	interesting menu, really good food. We'll break
11	from 11:30 to 1:00. That's for the members of
12	the general public. For members of TSAC, we're
13	mandated to have training. We're going to have
14	our DHS coordinator for FACA training and FACA
15	administration. She will be giving you all a
16	30-minute session to meet the requirements for
17	FACA training.
18	Lastly, I would like to share is
19	yesterday, we discussed and showcased a safety

alert that was recently published, and it's based
on the report from the work of the subcommittee
reviewing the KULLUK Report. We do have the

safety alert posted in our Homeport page. 1 Then 2 Mr. Abernathy's going to make a quick safety brief, and then he's going to show you and share 3 what is the address for the Homeport page. 4 At any time that you feel like you 5 need to know what's going on with TSAC reports, 6 7 you want to review the reports, you want to see the safety alert, please feel free to visit 8 9 Homeport, and you can access the documents and 10 see what else is new and what are we doing with 11 this valuable FACA. That's pretty much all I 12 have to say. Thank you, again, good morning, 13 I would like to introduce our chairman, welcome. Mr. Steve Huttman. He's going to say a couple 14 15 remarks, and then a couple things on the agenda, 16 and then we'll proceed accordingly with remarks 17 from our distinguished guests. Thank you so 18 much. 19 CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS 20 Thank you very CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you, Commander. 21 much. Again, like 22 Commander Perez said, I'd like to thank everybody

for attending today, and also wish to thank the Maritime Administration for hosting us again. This is our third time back over here. We very much appreciate the assistance from the Maritime 4 Administration to give us a place to meet here in Washington.

7 This has been very beneficial for the committee because we get to have much better 8 9 dialogue with the folks at Coast Guard 10 Headquarters and very much appreciate that, so 11 thank you. As the commander said yesterday, we had a very productive day with our subcommittees. 12 13 I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate them on the hard work that they've been turning 14 15 out for us. Yesterday's meeting, for some of you 16 who weren't here, Commander Perez was able to tell us about the Coast Guard Safety Alert that 17 18 was issued on October 4th regarding the "Don't 19 Lose Your Toe in Heavy Weather, Plan Ahead to 20 Ensure a Safe Endeavor," which was truly a ringing endorsement of the work of this body, 21 22 this committee, with the great work that was

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produced on the report of the MODU KULLUK. 1 2 That was a very diligent report. The committee worked on that for a number of years, 3 and we're very pleased to see that the Coast 4 Guard took a lot of those recommendations and set 5 that out for the widest dissemination to the 6 7 industry. We were very pleased to see that, so thank you. Again, we have a pretty full agenda 8 9 today. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA 10 The first thing we 11 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: need to do is to accept the agenda by the 12 13 members. At this point, I'd look for a motion to accept the agenda. Have a motion from Ms. 14 15 Salyers. 16 MEMBER SALYERS: Motion to accept. 17 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: I'm looking for a 18 second. Mr. Lagarde. 19 MEMBER LAGARDE: Second. 20 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: All those in favor 21 to accept the agenda, say aye. 22 (Chorus of ayes.)

1	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Those opposed?
2	(No audible response.)
3	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: None opposed;
4	therefore, we'll continue with the agenda, as
5	written.
6	TSAC MEMBER AND AUDIENCE
7	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: The next thing is
8	for the introduction of the members and the
9	committee roll call. I'll start with that. I'm
10	Steve Huttman, vice president of operations for
11	G&H Towing Company, and the chairman of TSAC. I
12	represent the barge and towing industry. When I
13	call your name, if you could also tell us what
14	segment of the industry you represent for your
15	position on the committee, as well, I'd
16	appreciate that. Mr. Johansson.
17	VICE CHAIRMAN JOHANSSON: Good
18	morning, Eric Johansson, director of the tug and
19	barge committee, representing port terminals and
20	vice chair of TSAC.
21	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Vitt.
22	MEMBER VITT: Good morning. I'm Mike

Vitt with E.N. Bisso & Sons of New Orleans, 1 2 representing the tug and barge industry. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Kress. 3 MEMBER KRESS: Good morning, Steve 4 Kress, McAllister Towing, vice president of 5 operations, representing the tug and barge 6 7 industry. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Myskowski. 8 9 MEMBER MYSKOWSKI: Good morning, Chris 10 Myskowski, Marquette Transportation, representing 11 barge and towing. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: 12 Ms. Taft. 13 MEMBER TAFT: Jill Taft, Kirby Inland Marine, representing barge and towing. 14 15 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Caliendo. 16 MEMBER CALIENDO: Mike Caliendo, Andrie, Incorporated, president of the 17 18 transportation group, representing towing and 19 barging. 20 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Ms. Terral. MEMBER TERRAL: Joy Terral, Lemm 21 22 Corporation, representing terminals and ports.

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1	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Guidry.
2	MEMBER GUIDRY: Brian Guidry with
3	Edison Chouest Offshore, senior operations
4	manager, representing the oil and gas industry in
5	the Gulf East.
6	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Ms. Wilcox.
7	MEMBER WILCOX: Laura Wilcox,
8	Massachusetts Maritime Academy, assistant
9	professor of engineering, representing licensed
10	marine chief engineering.
11	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Lagarde.
12	MEMBER LAGARDE: Matt Lagarde with
13	American Commercial Barge Lines, director of
14	regulatory compliance, representing the tug and
15	barge industry.
16	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Southworth.
17	MEMBER SOUTHWORTH: Wes Southworth,
18	captain, Moran Towing, Baltimore. I represent
19	harbor tugs and ship docking masters.
20	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Richmond.
21	MEMBER RICHMOND: Ray Richmond,
22	SCF/Lewis & Clark Fleeting, pilot, representing

masters and pilots on the Western Rivers. 1 2 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Rushing. MEMBER RUSHING: Mike Rushing with 3 Rushing Marine, representing members of the 4 general public. 5 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Ms. Salyers. 6 7 MEMBER SALYERS: Jo Ann Salyers, Salyers Solutions Consultants, representing the 8 9 general public. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Fewell. 10 11 MEMBER FEWELL: Mike Fewell, barge 12 operations manager at Dow Chemical, representing 13 shippers. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Crooks. 14 15 MEMBER CROOKS: Jerry Crooks, Shell Trading Company, marine technical advisor, 16 17 representing shippers. 18 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Commander Perez, we 19 have a quorum present and request permission to 20 continue with the business of the committee. CDR. PEREZ: Yes, sir, thank you so 21 22 much for that. Welcome, again. I would like to

highlight that we do have two new members to the 1 2 committee, Ms. Wilcox, Mr. Myskowski. Thank you, and welcome to your first meeting. We look 3 forward for your participation. Yesterday, you 4 made some interesting remarks, so first time I 5 hear a new member speak actively and share their 6 7 experiences and their vision. I encourage you to keep up the great work. Soon enough, you're 8 9 going to be leading a subcommittee and the lead 10 to some great final reports. Coast Guard looks 11 forward to those final reports. Mainly, like you 12 saw, the safety alert was published, also 13 regulatory development, so your comments and recommendations are really vital to our efforts 14 15 to improve the standards of commercial towing 16 operations and other types of operations like, for example, NOSAC next week. 17

18 Thank you, again, for that. I would 19 like to introduce, actually, my boss and our 20 senior executive sponsor, Captain Kelly. He 21 always participates with TSAC, and he's really 22 interested and really passionate about the great

work that we accomplish with TSAC, mainly because of all the good stuff and the great relationship that we're maintaining with Coast Guard.

Having some ex-Coasties on the 4 committee, that's always interesting to see how 5 they perceive the operation, not only from the 6 7 Coast Guard perspective, but also from their current work and their activities. Thank you for 8 9 Captain Kelly, I have a two-page bio on that. 10 him, but I'm just going to say that he's the chief of the Office of Environmental and 11 12 Operating Standards, Coast Guard Headquarters. 13 He joined us at TSAC last year, so we about a year solid relationship. He's becoming an expert 14 15 and master at that relationship with FACA-related 16 committees. Captain Kelly.

17 CAPT. KELLY: Thank you, Jose. Good
18 morning, everybody. Once again, my name is Scott
19 Kelly. I'm from Coast Guard Headquarters. My
20 office is OES, Operating and Environmental
21 Standards.

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One difference I do want to point out,

and I think you're going to hear about it later today, we recently pulled out the credentialing program and we consolidated all of credentialing under a new Coast Guard office, the Merchant Mariner Credentialing Program. You'll hear from Luke Harden later today, I believe, about what that means for all of you.

You can fire some questions at Luke 8 9 about manning. I'm sure you have a few. Aqain, 10 thank you, everybody, for coming to Washington, It's beautiful here this time of year. 11 D.C. Ι 12 want to thank our hosts, the Department of 13 Transportation and MARAD, and I want to highlight and especially thank Captain Jim Jenkins, who's 14 15 here in the audience, who's our Coast Guard 16 We got put through the wringer earlier liaison. this week about some rooms and he helped us 17 18 straighten it out, so I want to thank him. I, of 19 course, want to thank everyone here at TSAC for 20 your great work, your volunteer work, especially the chairman and vice chairman, Steve and Eric. 21 22 Everything that TSAC does is vitally

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important to the Coast Guard and the towing industry, but I think today, you'll find the discussions to be especially interesting, since we've delivered Subchapter M, our regulations that we've been waiting to hear about, that we couldn't talk about in great detail, and now we can.

Do want to highlight, you may find it 8 9 interesting that next week, Jose and I will be in Houston once again, leading another FACA, the 10 offshore NOSAC. At that FACA, ironically enough, 11 most of the discussion is going to be about 12 13 safety management systems. We've heard from the offshore industry about some of the things that 14 15 we've been focusing on about the value of a 16 safety management system and how they have told us that the early investment in a safety 17 18 management system, not just a system on the 19 shelf, but a fully implemented safety management 20 system, not only makes for a safer vessel operation, it saves the company money. 21 I think 22 that's something we're all interested in. At

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least, I'm interested in the safety aspect, and 1 2 I'm sure you're interested in the ability to continue your business uninterrupted. 3 Thank you to everybody, once again, 4 for coming here today. I also want to thank 5 Captain Verne Gifford, who'll be speaking later 6 7 on today. He's in charge of all of our inspections and compliance programs in the Coast 8 9 Guard, and he's been going around the country 10 talking quite extensively about Subchapter M, so we look forward to his comments later. 11 Then, of course, I'll end it with thanking Commander Perez 12 13 and Will Nabach and Bill for setting this up Thank you very much. 14 today. 15 REMARKS BY THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR 16 CDR. PEREZ: Thank you, Captain. Now, I have the pleasure to introduce and welcome 17 18 Admiral Chip Jaenichen. He was appointed by President Obama and served as the maritime 19 20 administrator since 25th of July, 2014. He previously served as both the deputy and acting 21 22 maritime administrator from July 2012 to July

Sir, thank you for coming. He's going to '14. 1 2 make some welcoming remarks. Thank you. MR. JAENICHEN: Commander Perez, thank 3 I just happened to notice -- does anybody 4 you. get the Tug Technology and Business News? 5 Anybody see this one? I thought this was pretty 6 7 interesting. It's a gentleman, his title is that the Jones Act is an obstacle to investing in the 8 9 U.S. 10 I assume if you're a foreign company, 11 that might be the case. The interesting thing that he talked about is the fact that we don't 12 13 have Z drives, and that's holding it back that we can't handle -- I thought it was very interesting 14 15 that he wants to get his company in to help us 16 get Z drives on our tugs. 17 I thought that was a pretty 18 interesting comment. Clearly, Jones Act is 19 holding his company back, but it's not about 20 technology because I think we already have that out there. Good morning, everyone. 21 It's 22 certainly a pleasure to be here. I want to

welcome you to the Department of Transportation and apologize in advance. I understand, as I saw the long lines trying to get through security this morning, sometimes when we have more than one or two conferences going on at the same time, it's difficult to get into the building. I'm certainly honored to be here with so many of the industry experts that are connected to the towing industry.

10 I'm going to make some remarks here, 11 and then I'll certainly open it up for questions, but I'll leave it to the Coast Guard, who's 12 13 obviously set up this meeting today. This is the day and time, which I think most of you already 14 15 know, the industry is, quite frankly, struggling. 16 They're facing many challenges. I was just out in Paducah this past weekend, and I talked to 17 18 many of the two boat operators out there. 19 They were talking about some of the 20 cargo, specifically coal, which is down pretty significantly. Other than that, the towing 21

industry is really the one sector of our maritime

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industry that really is growing and, for the most part, is thriving in this particular environment. In many ways, what the towing industry has done, they've taken a very proactive versus a reactive approach to inevitable change, and it stands as a very dynamic model for what the rest of the industry, I think, should be emulating. I want to extend a personal welcome to all the towboat/tugboat operators and mariners and the shippers and the port authorities who are here today in D.C. and are here for this public meeting.

13 I frequently ask my speech writer to inject some humor into my remarks because he 14 15 feels like I have a very dry wit and it doesn't 16 go over very well. Today's humor comes compliments of David Holbrook's daughter, Ashley. 17 18 He shared that when he was saying goodnight to 19 his two young daughters earlier this week, they 20 got to talking about some of the speeches that he writes for me and some of the topics that they 21 22 talk about.

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He explained the subject in quite a 1 2 bit of detail. He asked them what they thought I should lead my remarks with because he told them 3 that I like to tell a little bit of humor up 4 His youngest sat for a moment and says, 5 front. "Okay, Dad, how's this? What do you get when you 6 7 cross a foot with a ship?" Anybody? You get a big toe, T-O-E, boat. It's way better than mine, 8 9 so I'll just leave it at that. I think it was 10 actually definitely appropriate, with the largest fleet size of any other maritime category in the 11 United States, with over 6,700 tugs and towboats 12 13 nationally, and another 100 or so that are actually sailing in deep water, I put the towing 14 15 industry at the head, rather than at the foot, of 16 the industry. Now you see how this all ties 17 18 together, right? As I noted earlier, some of the 19 segments of the maritime industry, they are 20 struggling. The U.S. Merchant Marine is at a

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I absolutely thought that I would never see.

dangerous tipping point. We live in a time that

That's where the U.S. flag oceangoing fleet, specifically that in international trade, has shrunk to its lowest level in our nation's entire history.

When I came to the Maritime 5 Administration a little over four years ago, the 6 7 international trading fleet that was U.S. flag stood at 106 vessels and had been between about 8 9 120 and 100 or so for the last three decades. On the 1st of October of this year, that number now 10 stands at 78, 27 percent decrease in the size of 11 international trading fleet in less than four 12 13 The U.S. flag percentage of ships that years. are transporting freight internationally, and 14 15 that includes both imports and exports, is 16 shockingly and embarrassingly small.

Our maritime strategy for the nation comes from the Merchant Marine Act of 1936 and says we're supposed to be carrying a substantial amount of our cargo on U.S. flag ships. Today, that percentage stands at less than 2 percent. I don't know about you guys, but substantial does

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not mean 2 percent to me.

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Of the 40,000 vessels that are moving cargo globally in international trade, 78 are U.S. flagged. Again, I'll just re-emphasize that point one last time. That is the lowest level in our entire nation's history.

7 Especially those of you who are familiar with the Hanjin bankruptcy and the fact 8 9 that 3 out of every 4 shippers in the U.S. --10 540,000 containers -- are hung up -- they 11 declared bankruptcy at the end of August. Many of the containers are still not delivered to the 12 13 end customers, so that is certainly a challenge. As the U.S. oceangoing fleet dwindles, so does 14 15 the part that the U.S. Merchant Marine plays, and 16 it directly affects our shipbuilding, and it affects our mariner jobs. It affects our 17 18 resources. These are all essential resources and components of both our national and our economic 19 20 strategies. The slow demise of these vital assets increases our vulnerabilities. 21 22 It's both to international, but also

to transnational threats. It threatens our standing as a maritime force to be reckoned with, and it goes back to our nation's founding. The real concern that I have is really from the national defense standpoint because it's the U.S. flag ships that ensures that we can globally project and sustain our armed forces anywhere in the world when they are needed to be able to protect our national interests.

10 We have history that goes back to prior to the Vietnam War, when U.S. cargoes for 11 Department of Defense, they refused to deliver 12 13 those cargoes to our troops. It's happened time and time again, so we're very concerned. 14 That 15 dramatic decline in strength and vitality of our 16 U.S. oceangoing maritime sector is putting both our national and, I think, our economic security 17 18 at risk. It's a challenge that we're certainly working hard at the maritime administration, and 19 20 also Department of Transportation, to try to We're doing it through a National 21 reverse. 22 Maritime Transportation Strategy. You'll notice

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that we've added a word to that strategy. 1 2 It started off as the National Maritime Strategy. It has now gone through its 3 first interagency review, and we've changed it to 4 transportation primarily because it does not have 5 a defense element in it. It's really about 6 7 transportation. It's about commerce. That's why we've changed it. 8 9 We're also doing it through, 10 literally, millions of dollars in grants and loans and versatile funding streams through the 11 Department of Transportation and the Maritime 12 13 Administration. We're making that available to be able to modernize ports, maritime 14 15 infrastructure, and be able to recruit and train 16 the next generation of mariners. Just yesterday, the Department of Maritime Administration 17 18 announced \$4.85 million in marine highway grants. 19 Three of those grants are going to bar services, 20 one between Baton Rouge and Memphis, the other, what we call the M64 Express, which runs from 21 22 Hampton Roads all the way up to Richmond, and the

last one is going to be a demonstration project 1 2 for the Illinois Soybean Association. Those grants were just announced yesterday. 3 The strategy, we believe, is going to 4 strengthen all segments of the industry, 5 including the towing industry. Today, what, in 6 7 all likelihood, with the election coming up -- if you've ever seen the movie with Sylvester 8 9 Stallone, the Expendables -- I'm not expendable, 10 as we run up to the election, so most of the 11 political appointees will be going to greener 12 pastures or, in my case, I hope it's browner 13 water. It is certainly a sincere pleasure to 14 15 be here today. It gives me an opportunity to 16 highlight, I think, one of the truly encouraging segments of the maritime enterprise, and that is 17 18 one that is admittedly flying well below the 19 radar for the nation. It's below the public

industry, in terms of what you do day in and day out. I'm not exaggerating when I call the

That's our nation's towing

consciousness.

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towboat and the barge sector the backbone of the maritime industry. You know it, and I know it. It's a very vibrant industry that supports thousands of well-paying jobs. It contributes significantly to our nation's economy and enhances the health of many, many communities all around the country, coast to coast, but mainly in the U.S. heartland.

9 Your vessels, your operators, and your crews are a vast array of services that are being 10 11 provided, from pushing 1,000 feet of barges out in the waterways to handling and docking of 12 13 millions of tons of cargo on commercial ships that are calling at our commercial coastal 14 15 harbors, to moving -- providing propulsion for 16 articulated tug barges, carrying oil and petroleum products and taking those from the 17 18 refineries to markets all around the country. 19 There are many people, both inside and 20 outside of your industry, that don't realize that your members have historically always led the 21 22 way, from the standpoint of marine safety and

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environmental stewardship. That is one of the real reasons why we're here today. As was just announced, as I think everyone knows, this past June, the U.S. Coast Guard published their landmark Subchapter M, which raised a regulatory floor in this critical industry segment. Over the course of the next several years, during the implementation period, it's going to take marine safety and environmental stewardship to the next level for this industry.

11 Subchapter M is the most important rulemaking, I believe, that's ever been effected 12 13 for the tug and the towboat industry, striving to achieve the lofty goal of zero harm to humans, 14 15 zero harm to the environment, and more 16 importantly, zero harm to property, as the towing industry serves the critical waterborne commerce 17 18 for the nation.

19 The effort was certainly a massive 20 undertaking. It took over 12 years, as many of 21 you know. It brought together unprecedented 22 combination of intellectual resources from the

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Coast Guard, from the Towing Safety Advisory 1 2 Committee, which is here, American Waterways Operators, and hundreds of maritime leaders from 3 Together, they produced all across the country. 4 a very comprehensive 820-page document, the first 5 of its kind. What's even more impressive, I 6 7 think, is the fact that you did it on your own. You worked creatively; you worked 8 9 collaboratively; and you worked proactively. That is the precise formula of success that I 10 think the rest of the maritime industry should be 11 emulating if they want to not only survive, but 12 13 to thrive in the 21st century. What you've accomplished is exactly 14 15 what I've been talking about. It provides the 16 specificity -- I've been talking about this for the last four years, since I came to the Maritime 17 18 Administration. I do it at every conference that 19 I'm at, in terms of what it's going to take for 20 our industry to move forward, and you're doing exactly that. 21 22

Your achievement has taken a long and

often exhausting process, but the final result, I 1 2 would say, is better than good enough. It certainly is one that sets an example. I believe 3 the end result -- if you start with a goal in 4 mind to make sure that every towing vessel and 5 operator are competing on a level playing field, 6 7 I think that's good for the industry, and I think it's good for the nation. My good friend, and I 8 9 think many of you know her, Jennifer Carpenter, 10 at American Waterways Operators, has been deeply 11 involved in the drafting of the Subchapter M since its early inception in 2003. She has said 12 13 that her son, Chris, was born, essentially, the very same week that AWO came back to the Coast 14 15 Guard and said, "We're happy to partner with you 16 on this regulatory journey."

Today, Jennifer proudly states that her son, Chris, is now taller than she is, needs a shave. That really is the story, what I'd call, of commitment and perseverance and, simply, just staying the course until the goal is reached. It's a feat that I find that's even

more impressive when you consider how you exercised forethought and, more importantly, you thrust it upon yourself, as an industry, because it was the right thing to do.

You didn't wait until there was a 5 major accident or a disaster. You didn't wait 6 7 until Congress forced it on you. You saw an opportunity to take what was, for the most part, 8 9 a pretty safe, unregulated industry, and then over the course of 12 years, you produced a 10 systematic body of rules to guide you forward. 11 There is no question in my mind that we would not 12 13 be here today without the collective leadership of the industry and the Coast Guard across the 14 15 span of several years. What that means is 16 there's many, many people involved. If you think about the rotations for the Coast Guard and how 17 18 many changes of leadership in the course of 12 19 years, to keep that on track, I think, is 20 singularly impressive.

21 The new regulations cover literally 22 every aspect of towing vessel operations to

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reduce risks across the board. It covers the management policies and procedures, the structural integrity of vessels and how they are maintained, from firefighting and life-saving procedures to emergency equipment.

It takes a very serious and detailed 6 7 look at operating procedures, including such things as how to shoot under bridges to make sure 8 9 that you don't elide with them, to prevent damage 10 to either the towboat, the barges, or the structure of the bridge, itself. It places heavy 11 emphasis -- and I think this is probably the most 12 13 important thing -- on training, emphasizing both the hardware and the software aspects of people 14 15 and the management systems, and also how all of 16 it fits and works together. It addresses a host of environmental safety concerns by setting forth 17 18 best practices to prevent accidents that would 19 adversely affect rivers, ports, and harbors. It 20 keeps that waterborne traffic that must be kept moving to ensure our nation remains both strong 21 22 and vibrant for our economy.

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It's been a long time in coming. 1 2 Subchapter M is certainly a comprehensive regulation -- I think everyone would agree that 3 -- whose results show that it was certainly time 4 well spent, and it was made possibly only because 5 the towing industry embraced the process from the 6 7 very beginning. You had already been on a safety 8 9 journey, even before Subchapter M, previously 10 putting into place AWO's Responsible Carrier Program that was a voluntary, self-regulatory 11 Yet, the industry kept asking what can 12 program. 13 we do better to improve our industry standing from the standpoint of safety? Here, just let me 14 15 state the obvious. What the tugs and towboats do 16 in the water I do not think, by any standard, is an easy or an operation that has no dangers or no 17 18 inherent risks. Much larger ships have crews of 19 up to 26 mariners on board; whereas, a small 20 fleet boat or tugboat can have, you can look at two, and maybe some of them will have up to six 21 22 or seven, but certainly, they have less than 12.

With these comparatively small 1 2 towboats and tugs that are moving very large ships around the harbor -- if you think about it, 3 a towboat with a number of barges is moving the 4 same amount of cargo as a ship 20 times its size. 5 To me, that's pretty significant. They have to 6 7 line up. They have to latch the long tows 8 9 together of upwards to 30 barges, navigate winding waterways in all kinds of weather 10 conditions 24/7. I believe it's a pretty 11 difficult, and often risk-filled job, very labor 12 13 intensive. If a tug operator pulls instead of pushes, the consequences could be pretty 14 15 significant. You can snap lines. 16 One moment of inattention can result in injury, death, vessel damage, and potential 17 18 sinking. It is not a not-risky business that 19 you're in. I think what you've done, I think, is 20 significant. Twelve years ago, the towing

> industry and the Coast Guard got together and said we have an opportunity to build on what we

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have in place and put together a comprehensive regulatory structure, and you've done just that, with support of the Coast Guard and the American Waterways Operator each step of the way. 4 I think the Towing Safety Advisory Committee has certainly taken charge, has a broad array of very inclusive team, from companies both large and small, from every geographic area, from ship builders to towboat and tug operators and owners and naval architects, all have provided 10 their technical input to the TSAC. What's resulted, I think, is a truly 12 13 new world for the towing industry. I think there are some people that say that it's just going to 14 take some time and we'll see, once we get through

15 16 the implementation stage, whether that really proves it out, but I think you're certainly 17 18 making the right progress.

19 To everyone throughout the industry 20 who participated and brought Subchapter M to fruition, I say congratulations and job well 21 22 That said, I think everyone recognizes done.

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that the hard work is now beginning. That is to be able to go through the implementation phase and determine how to make these regulations work in practice. That's going to require both time and resources. Resources means manpower, but more importantly money, in some cases.

7 The Coast Guard, naturally, is going to shoulder a huge part of the burden of 8 9 implementation and, of course, AWO has pledged their commitment to helping all of its members 10 navigate success with the transition to the 11 towing vessel inspection and to sharing 12 13 information on Subchapter M throughout its entire industry as the rules are implemented. 14

15 It's going to continually be a 16 collaborative effort. You know that. I was just down in Houston, and I met with the American 17 18 Bureau of Shipping. They recognize that they 19 have a role, potentially, to play in this. 20 They're going to be providing a contribution in critical expertise and 21 22 consultation throughout this implementation

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phase. I do want to express my full confidence in all of you to complete the process, but even more so, I want to express my deep appreciation to the role of TSAC as an advisory committee to the Coast Guard and for all the cooperation from the industry to bring this significant milestone and regulation into effect. If you continue to work together, there's no question that you'll be able to succeed and be able to move marine safety and environmental stewardship forward.

Your work in the industry is going to 11 benefit the American people with even safer 12 13 waterways than we currently have today, but more importantly, quality jobs and commercial 14 15 vitality. You're going to ultimately create, I 16 think, a very healthy and safe towing industry. You've got a great track record, and 17 18 I have every confidence that you'll be able to do

that, so this is more -- this is just the beginning. Again, thank you for the invitation to speak. Thank you for coming and using the Department of Transportation Headquarters. GSA

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thanks you. Again, welcome, and I hope you have a great meeting today.

Thank you, sir. 3 CDR. PEREZ: Thank you for the great remarks. Once again, thank you 4 for hosting us and allowing us to be here for the 5 last two days -- great accommodations, location. 6 7 This is perfect to host this type of meeting and allow us to engage in our professional 8 9 information exchange and allowing the community 10 to generate the great recommendations that, 11 later, are going to be shared with Coast Guard, 12 and so on and so forth, for the greater good of 13 the towing industry. Thank you, sir. Now, I would like to recognize the general public 14 15 joining us today.

I would like to take a couple minutes to do a quick introduction of the general public. We do appreciate your participation joining us yesterday and today. We count on the valuable comments and the expert insight that you shared yesterday. Hopefully, we'll have another great set of comments, questions, and sharing of

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opinion about the topics that we're discussing 1 2 today -- yesterday and today. Starting from the left, Mr. Abernathy, 3 if you can share the mic, so we could have our 4 guests from the general public stand up and 5 introduce yourself, name and your title. 6 Then 7 that way, we'll also capture it on the record. MR. ABERNATHY: I'm Bill Abernathy. 8 9 I'm the ADFO for TSAC. LCDR. NABACH: Lieutenant Commander 10 11 Will Nabach, another ADFO for TSAC, Coast Guard 12 Headquarters. 13 CAPT. GIFFORD: Verne Gifford, director of inspections and compliance, Coast 14 15 Guard Headquarters. 16 MR. BISH: Alan Bish, Reinauer 17 Transportation Company. 18 MR. LECHNER: Good morning, Ray 19 Lechner, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Domestic 20 Vessel Compliance Division. MR. KENT: Hi, I'm Matt Kent with AWO. 21 22 MR. HOUSTON: Terence Houston, AWO.

MR. MARTINEZ: Julio Martinez, U.S. 1 2 Coast Guard, Fifth District Office. MR. PINNER: Eddie Pinner with 3 Crescent Towing of New Orleans. 4 MR. QUINN: Good morning, John Quinn, 5 associate administrator for environment and 6 7 compliance here at MARAD. MS. CARDONE: Tina Cardone from 8 9 C-PORT, representing the marine assistance towing 10 companies. MR. FRANCIC: John Francic with ABS 11 12 Group out of Houston. 13 MR. NYHUIS: Fred Nyhuis with Marathon Petroleum. 14 15 LDCR. WALTER: Matthew Walter, Coast 16 Guard Headquarters, Office of Navigation Systems. MR. MENKE: Greg Menke, Evansville 17 18 Marine Service. 19 MS. MALLON: Courtney Mallon, 20 attorney, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law. 21 22 MR. REILLY: Sean Reilly, Southern

Towing Company, Memphis, Tennessee. 1 2 MR. MCVICKER: Ian McVicker, ABS out of Paducah. 3 MS. HARDY: Caitlin Hardy with Foss 4 Maritime. 5 MR. NELSON: Lee Nelson, Upper River 6 7 Services, St. Paul. MR. LEAVELL: George Leavell, Wepfer 8 9 Marine, Memphis. MR. LEE: Good morning, Patrick Lee 10 11 representing the general public. CDR. TWOMEY: Jacie Twomey from the 12 13 Coast Guard's Towing Vessels Center of Expertise. Thanks, Pat, for all you've done for us in the 14 15 past. I also wanted to let you know that Scott 16 Kuhaneck is also here from the CVC, but he stepped out for a second. 17 18 MR. LITTLE: Patrick Little, Buffalo 19 Marine, Houston, Texas. 20 MR. TONE: Kevin Tone, Coast Guard marine safety specialist at Vessel Facilities 21 22 Operating Standards.

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1	MR. GALLION: Jerry Gallion, Kirby
2	Corporation, Houston.
3	MR. MCWHORTER: Tom McWhorter,
4	Maritime Services Group out of New Orleans,
5	Louisiana.
6	MR. WISNESKI: Jason Wisneski, Dann
7	Marine Towing, Chesapeake City, Maryland.
8	MR. BEATTY: Ken Beatty, Wilmington
9	Towing, Incorporated, Wilmington, Delaware.
10	MR. WELLS: Richard Wells, Offshore
11	Marine Service Association, New Orleans.
12	CAPT. JENKINS: Good morning, Jim
13	Jenkins, captain in the Coast Guard and the
14	liaison over here at Department of
15	Transportation.
16	MR. CORIGLIANO: Ron Corigliano with
17	Campbell Transportation Company out of
18	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
19	MS. STEWART: Caitlyn Stewart with the
20	American Waterways Operators.
21	MR. DELOACH: Z. Dave DeLoach, DeLoach
22	Marine.

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1	MR. COLEMAN: Kevin Coleman, I'm the
2	safety director here at the Maritime
3	Administration.
4	CDR. PEREZ: Thank you, Commander
5	Nabach. Yes, sir?
6	MR. ABERNATHY: All right, some of you
7	didn't sign in, need to have you sign in, please.
8	CDR. PEREZ: We're going to continue
9	the agenda. We'll have a break scheduled in a
10	couple minutes. Then I encourage for the rest of
11	the public to sign in, so we can make it
12	official. Just quick, as a safety brief notice,
13	we do have our facilities restrooms are
14	towards the back, both for female and male.
15	We do have dining hall facility, which
16	we're going to be using for lunch. The exits are
17	clearly marked. In case of an emergency, we will
18	follow Mr. Abernathy outside the building. He's
19	going to guide us to safety. At any time, if you
20	have any questions about the building, the
21	facilities, or anything else that you need,
22	please approach Mr. Abernathy or Lieutenant

Commander Nabach, and they will be more than 1 2 happy to assist you. Also, please make sure that you sign in the sign-in sheet. Now, I take great 3 pleasure to introduce our final distinguished 4 5 guest. He is Captain Gifford. He is the chief of inspections and 6 7 compliance, and he oversees policy enforcement, 8 casualty investigation for commercial and recreational vessels, waterfront facilities, and 9 port security. I do also have about two pages, 10 but we're going to leave it at that and let 11 Captain Gifford make his remarks. Thank you, 12 13 sir. REMARKS BY THE USCG DIRECTOR OF INSPECTIONS AND 14 COMPLIANCE, CG-5PC 15 CAPT. GIFFORD: I think you'd 16 17 appreciate my joke telling more than my biography, and my joke telling's not that good, 18 19 so I'll get to business. Chairman Huttman, the 20 members of TSAC, thank you very much for the opportunity to speak to you today. This is the 21 22 fifth time in front of a group of industry. AWO

was kind enough to open up its meetings. During 1 2 the summer, we went to Portland, Pittsburgh, New York, New Orleans, and now here today. We've 3 spoken to about -- the highlight, in just terms 4 of numbers of people, was Pittsburgh, where we 5 spoke to about 325 people and presented 6 7 Subchapter M. Each audience has been upwards of 8 at least 100 people to 200 people. I'd say all told, it's probably 1,000 9 people that we've briefed on Subchapter M, just 10 how we were going to go about ensuring that we 11 met all of the regulatory requirements, what the 12 13 timeline was, and then how we were going to address issues as they arose. This is the first 14 TSAC meeting since Subchapter M has gone into 15 16 effect. 17 It's a pretty noteworthy meeting just I'm thankful -- we had some 11th hour 18 for that. 19 concerns about meeting room size. We were told 20 we were initially going to be put into a place with 78 people, so thank God this place opened up 21 22 again. It's very nice to see everybody.

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-	For us, Subchapter M is significant,
1	FOI US, SUDCHAPTER MIS SIGNIFICANC,
2	in terms of numbers. We're going to have 6,000
3	new towing vessels that join the inspected fleet.
4	That is an increase of 50 percent. The inspected
5	fleet right now, for the Coast Guard, is 12,000
6	vessels. This increases, by 50 percent, the
7	number of vessels that we'll be inspecting.
8	Another interesting and unique factor about
9	Subchapter M is that it contains two options for
10	compliance. There's the Coast Guard option,
11	which I think everyone who may have owned an
12	inspected vessel before is familiar with, where
13	Coast Guard inspectors go out and conduct the
14	inspection on an annual basis.
15	They attend all dry docks. They make
16	sure they go to internal structural exams. This
17	one has the TSMS option, which allows the company
18	to use a third party to conduct audits, and also
19	to conduct surveys, either externally or
20	internally, so that they can then obtain a
21	certificate of an inspection working with the
22	Coast Guard, having much less involvement by the

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Coast Guard.

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2	The Coast Guard would only be looking
3	at vessels on the order of once every five years,
4	assuming everything is running well. This
5	rulemaking is very significant from that point.
6	I think it's always important to just emphasize,
7	again, how safe the towing vessel industry is.
8	When you look at presentations, because it's
9	considered part of the transportation sector,
10	just in terms of how much moves by the towing
11	industry and how safely it all moves you look
12	at any one barge I think everyone's familiar
13	with this, but it bears repeating, one barge
14	carries anywhere between 70 to 140 truckloads.
15	It removes those truckloads from the roads, which
16	are already congested.
17	It carries anywhere from 16 to 46
18	railcars, depending on the kind of car you're
19	looking at. It does it much more safely. For
20	every death in the towing vessel industry, there
21	is 22 deaths in the rail industry, and there's
22	155 deaths in the truck industry. You already

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are starting at a benchmark for the rest of the transportation industry.

You do things much more safely than they do and, quite frankly, since the Bridging Program started in 2004-2005, the number of deaths has decreased to 30 percent of what it was back in 2005. Also, when you just look at the number of spills, if you look at the six lowest years for spills for the towing industry, they've all happened within the last eight years. There is a noted trend downward, in terms of incidents. Because barges move so much, when an incident does happen, it gets noted. That's what we're here to try to prevent, those things that draw a lot of attention and cause a lot of anguish on the part of the towing industry and the Coast Guard when we're trying to respond to things. Ι think, though, you can definitely see a trend of safety.

June 20, 2016, that's the date, etched in stone, of when the rulemaking was published. June 20, 2017 is when Subchapter M will apply to

new vessels, and June 20, 2018 is when it will apply to those 6,000 existing vessels. We've got some time, but not much time, and we're moving to try to make sure that we're addressing those outstanding issues that allow us to effectively implement Subchapter M.

7 We are trying to incentivize. We 8 realize that safety management systems, we want to put quality control into the hands of the 9 10 companies, themselves. We don't want the Coast Guard, necessarily, being responsible for a 11 once-a-year look to see if you're operating 12 13 safely. We want to make sure you're operating 14 safely all the time. It's been proven that a safety management system makes that happen. 15 We 16 want to do everything we can to incentivize 17 companies to adopt a safety management system, and we're working just toward that end. 18 One of 19 the first things that we're doing is we are 20 implementing -- we're collecting feedback. Throughout those meetings, there were upwards of 21 22 250 issues that have now been raised.

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We have those issues posted on the 1 National Center of Expertise website. I'm going 2 to point to the subject-matter expert who dressed 3 4 like me, just to make sure I wasn't going to be 5 the only one. Jacie, could you stand up, please? If you guys start asking very hard questions, as 6 7 soon as we get through my brief remarks, Jacie will likely answer them. She's been a rock star, 8 in terms of making sure everything is implemented 9 10 well. 11 Next to her is Scott Kuhaneck, who has also been here day in and day out. Pat Lee, he 12 no longer works for us, but he could probably 13 14 answer those questions very well, too. I want to 15 mention just how we're addressing issues, as we 16 collect those issues. Scott Kelly, here, is our acronym master on the headquarters staff, so he 17 always makes sure that we always develop 18 19 something that can be effectively acronymized. In this case, the Towing Policy Council, or 20 21 TOPOCO, is the group of headquarters, area, 22 district, and the NCOE staffs that meet to

address the issues that come up. TOPOCO meets 1 2 twice every week. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, at 1300, we're having conference calls that bring 3 everyone in to address the issues at hand. 4 5 Of those 250 issues, we've identified about 40 that are high priority. We're trying to 6 7 tackle those 40 first. We're making slow, but 8 effective progress. Right now, we've got 40 papers that are in draft status, that are getting 9 10 vetted and viewed throughout the system. I think 11 we will soon be able to start publishing those papers online. 12 What you have online right now, if you 13 go to the NCOE website, is a listing of 14 15 frequently asked questions that's about seven or 16 eight pages long. You also have a spreadsheet that, when you print it out, is over 25 pages. 17 That includes the 250 issues that I mentioned. 18 19 You can look and see what issues have already 20 been submitted. What we hope to also post is 21 what our answers to those issues are, but 22 everything requires legal reviews, so sometimes

it takes a little bit of time. In addition to 1 2 what we talk about at TOPOCO, we have an open task statement with TSAC. We use that, 3 effectively, to present to you our TPO or 4 5 third-party organization guidebook. That's the guidance we're offering in 6 7 addition to Subchapter M that allows us to go 8 through the process now -- when I say us, the NCOE is responsible for approving TPOs. After 9 TSAC review and comments, we hope to then get 10 those comments, address them, and make sure that 11 we're on our way to approving third parties. 12 13 As you know, third parties are the ones that issue the certificates to the 14 companies, and those certificates have to be in 15 16 place six months prior to companies then getting 17 COIs for their vessels. With the July 20, 2017 timeline for 18 19 new vessels, we want to make sure that we, of 20 course, have approved TPOs, so that they can start issuing certificates by January 20, 2017 21 22 for those new vessels. We definitely want to

make sure we have everything in place for the existing vessels. With that, I'll try to yield back my time. I didn't want to go a full half hour here. If anyone has any questions, we do have subject-matter experts coming in to address licensing issues later on in the day, so I would ask that if you have a licensing question, you wait for Mr. Luke Harden, who will be coming from our headquarters staff.

I know person in charge is an issue that always gets a lot of interest, and he should be able to address where we stand with that person in charge issue. We can address, with the help of the folks in the audience here from the Coast Guard, any other questions that the public or TSAC may have. Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any questions from 18 the members for Captain Gifford? Everybody must 19 have already heard him speak at one of the other 20 opportunities. I do want to give you some kudos 21 for that, Captain Gifford.

I had the pleasure to hear you speak

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at the AWO conference in Pittsburgh. I really 1 2 appreciate the openness and the welcoming atmosphere that you established between your 3 staff and TSAC and the Coast Guard and industry 4 5 in working through the issues that inevitably are going to arise in Subchapter M. 6 7 CAPT. GIFFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 8 9 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you very much 10 for that. Do we have any questions from the 11 general public for Captain Gifford? Again, if you could state your name and who you represent 12 for the reporter, that would be appreciated. 13 MR. WELLS: Good morning, Verne. 14 I'm Richard Wells of the Offshore Marine Service 15 Association. One of our members brought up an 16 17 issue that was surprisingly unclear to me, so I'm going to bounce it off you and see what you 18 19 think. A vessel that is multi-certificated as an OSV cargo vessel and an anchor-handling tug 20 21 supply vessel, when that vessel is towing a MODU 22 under it's I certificate, it's operating as a

towing vessel.

2	The question is the manning. Is the
3	master, mates, engineers on the vessel adequately
4	manned if they have a master or mate towing with
5	the correct route and tonnage, or do they also
6	need a Subchapter I vessel license of appropriate
7	tonnage and route?
8	CAPT. GIFFORD: Scott stood behind
9	you. That's one of two things. Either I put him
10	to sleep and he's trying to wake himself up, or
11	he probably has addressed this issue before and
12	is really just ready for it. Scott?
13	MR. KUHANECK: Scott Kuhaneck, Office
14	of Commercial Vessel Compliance. I was
15	anticipating another question that we'd gotten,
16	Richard. To be honest, we have to take a look at
17	that from a credentialing standpoint. We've had
18	questions come up about multi-service and
19	occasional towing if they're certificated and how
20	M might apply, so I was anticipating that vein.
21	I did not necessarily anticipate the
22	credentialing question. I think that's best,

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1	maybe, something we should lob toward MMC, sir.
2	CAPT. GIFFORD: Thank you, Richard.
3	MEMBER LAGARDE: Matt Lagarde with
4	TSAC. I did happen when the list was down to
5	205, I think, I read through everything. I
6	noticed that we had priorities set out there next
7	to a lot of the different questions that came in.
8	One of the questions was in regard to watertight
9	closures and bulkheads. I happened to notice
10	that the level of priority next to that question
11	was a 3. Considering that was one of the first
12	things to go in effect under Subchapter M, I was
13	wondering where that priority shook out as a 3,
14	instead of a 1, being it was one of the first
15	things to come into effect?
16	CAPT. GIFFORD: I can't necessarily
17	tell you I wasn't involved in the
18	prioritization, but you're right. If, for some
19	reason, you're awaiting an answer to a question
20	that you're like, "We already have to comply with
21	this," if you bring it to our attention, I think
22	we can if we haven't already addressed it, we

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1	can make sure we're addressing it in the very
2	near future and we know what the problem is.
3	MR. NELSON: Lee Nelson, Upper River
4	Services, St. Paul. This may be the question
5	that Scott was preparing himself for. I'm not
6	sure. A number of us perform different
7	functions. We're moving barges, building tows,
8	switching barges all the time, but we also make
9	crew changes for line-haul boats.
10	The question's come up what do we do
11	about licensure? Because you're effectively
12	hauling passengers for hire. What about the
13	manning, whether you're moving a full crew or a
14	part of a crew? That's an issue on the Western
15	Rivers of how we're going to handle that and what
16	proper documentation we're going to need.
17	MR. KUHANECK: Scott Kuhaneck, again,
18	Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance. Lee, if
19	it's 12 or less, I think you're covered. You'll
20	be fine with that.
21	MR. NELSON: Even though there's an
22	operator that licensed.

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1	MR. KUHANECK: Right.
2	MR. NELSON: A towing operator.
3	MR. KUHANECK: Right. Yes, I think
4	we'd be fine with 12 or less. Above 12, we might
5	have some issues. I think there's existing
6	regulations and policy that would cover moving
7	individuals who are not crew members from one
8	location to another when it's 12 or less.
9	CAPT. GIFFORD: I would encourage
10	everyone, especially if you feel you've got an
11	urgent issue I'll put Jacie, but the NCOE out
12	there. No. 1, the website allows feedback, but
13	if you don't feel that's a quick enough vehicle,
14	make sure you're just calling the NCOE and
15	telling them this is already in place; we need an
16	answer. We'll bring it up at the following
17	TOPOCO meeting if it hasn't already been
18	addressed. We'll take care of it. Then any
19	other issue that, perhaps, allows us a little
20	more time to digest it, hopefully we can take
21	that time. Thank you very much, everyone.
22	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you. Thank

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1	you, again, Captain Gifford. We appreciate you
2	making the time available here. We stand ready
3	to take on any of those additional tasks that you
4	may send our way. We appreciate very much that
5	we got the guidebook just the other day. That's
6	already been forward to the members.
7	Later this afternoon, we'll be taking
8	on the first of our recommendations for Report
9	No. 1 out of our Subchapter M implementation
10	team. Just as they're wrapping up one task,
11	they're ready to take on the next. We very much
12	appreciate that. Thank you.
13	ACCEPTANCE OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES (SPRING AND
14	JUNE TELECONFERENCE)
15	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: At this point, we
16	have a couple of administrative items to take
17	care of. I had previously sent to all the
18	members our minutes from both our spring meeting,
19	as well as our summer teleconference, for your
20	review. Both of these meeting minutes may be
21	found on the TSAC website at Homeport Missions
22	Homeport. I just go to google and type TSAC and

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1	Homeport, and it takes you to the right page. I
2	won't spend the rest of the time going through
3	that. At this point, I'll need to entertain a
4	motion for acceptance of both the spring and
5	summer teleconference minutes. Do I have
6	MEMBER GUIDRY: So moved.
7	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Guidry made a
8	motion to accept. I need a second.
9	MEMBER CALIENDO: Second.
10	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Second by Mr.
11	Caliendo. At this point, we have a motion on the
12	floor to accept the minutes from the spring and
13	fall teleconference. I'll call for a vote. All
14	those in favor, say aye.
15	(Chorus of ayes.)
16	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: All those opposed,
17	say nay.
18	(No audible response.)
19	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any abstentions?
20	(No audible response.)
21	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We have two
22	abstentions, our new members, noted. With that,
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the meeting minutes have been accepted. We'll 1 sign those and get those over to the DFO for 2 acceptance. Thank you very much for that. I 3 4 think we have covered all the items on the agenda 5 at this point, and we are scheduled -- we're a little bit ahead of time. We've been running 6 7 well. We're planning a break, so we'll go ahead 8 and take that break right now, with the plan to 9 return at 10:00, a little earlier than what's on the agenda -- at 10:00. That will give us time 10 11 to have our first report from our subcommittee. 12 Thank you. We'll see you at 10:00. 13 (Whereupon, the above-entitled meeting went off the record at 9:38 a.m. and went back on 14 the record at 10:02 a.m.) 15 RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING NEW AND UPDATED POLICY 16 FOR ARTICULATED TUG AND BARGE (ATB) COMBINATIONS 17 CURRENTLY CONTAINED IN NVIC 2-81, CHANGE 1 18 (TASK NO. 15-02) 19 20 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, we're going 21 to go ahead and continue with the published 22 agenda today. At this point, we'll begin the

process of our subcommittee progress reports. 1 The first one that we have queued up for this 2 3 morning is from the subcommittee concerning the recommendations regarding new and updated policy 4 5 for articulated tug and barge (ATB) currently contained in NVIC 2-81, Change 1. For us, this 6 7 is Task No. 15-02. Mr. Jerry Crooks is our subcommittee chair. With that, we will turn this 8 9 over to Mr. Crooks for a report on the status of 10 this task. 11 MEMBER CROOKS: Good morning, 12 everybody. I'd like to stand up here and tell you that we've made a lot of progress on this 13 14 tasking, but the fact is that we haven't. This has been an unusual task, in that the first three 15 tasks all are dependent on a different group 16 17 having finished their work before we can actually begin ours. The history on this one is that the 18 19 Coast Guard was developing a policy letter to 20 deal with conditional occupancy of ATBs. The purpose was to allow there to be 21 22 people aboard an ATB to operate necessary

machinery while underway. The Coast Guard had formed a working group with AWO, and they were going to draft interim policy guidance, with the ultimate goal of bringing that policy guidance to TSAC, and then eventually revising the NVIC 2-81, Change 1. We were tasked with reviewing that interim policy letter as Task 1, once completed, and reviewing the proposed recommendations of the working group, once they complete their work. The good news is that since the spring, the policy letter has been completed. It was issued in July. The AWO working group has now scheduled meetings. We're going to meet in Washington here in a couple of weeks, November 15th and 16th, to continue that work. We haven't been completely inactive. The subcommittee has done some work developing a strawman as a starting point for our discussions, once we receive the AWO report. But

> at this point, beyond developing that strawman document, we really haven't done much, other than wait for the policy letter.

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1	I don't have a lot of progress to
2	report. We've been a bit impatient waiting for
3	this. We're really hopeful that the working
4	group will wrap up its work soon, and we're
5	hoping that at the spring meeting next year, we
6	can present a draft report. But at this point,
7	that's really the extent of the work that we've
8	done. I'll entertain any questions, if anybody
9	wants to has something that they want to
10	contribute or ask.
11	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Do we have any
12	questions from TSAC members for Mr. Crooks?
13	Hearing none, we'll ask if there's any questions
14	from the general public for Mr. Crooks regarding
15	this task? We have no questions. I do have one,
16	Mr. Crooks. Yesterday, there was some discussion
17	regarding the NVIC, where we were talking about
18	better redefining the name from ITBs to ATBs with
19	dual modes. Can you speak to that for a moment,
20	just in terms of the issue, as it's been raised?
21	MEMBER CROOKS: I did mention that we
22	had done some work as a subcommittee. One of the

things that we had done, we met at the spring 1 meeting and we discussed, among other things, the 2 3 issue of the terminology. The consensus of the subcommittee is that we would like to see this 4 5 terminology of dual mode ITB go away. 6 We can't really remove the term ITB 7 from the NVIC because there are two operating ITBs in the U.S. flag fleet currently. We did 8 9 some research on that and determined that as long 10 as those two ITBs remain in service, we probably 11 need to address them in the NVIC. We have, in 12 the strawman, already crafted some language that eliminates the term dual-mode ITB in favor of 13 just using ATB. One of the other things that 14 we've done -- I mentioned this yesterday; I'll 15 mention it again today -- is we have decided to 16 17 add a couple of enclosures to the NVIC, one being a history of the development of ATBs, and the 18 19 second being a list of the different ATB 20 technologies, the PIN technologies. We're going to have those two 21

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enclosures. We feel like they're better as an

addition, as an addendum to the NVIC, rather than 1 built into the body of the NVIC. We're going to 2 3 try to keep the NVIC focused on policy. Yes, the consensus of the committee is we want to see this 4 5 term dual-mode ITB permanently retired. 6 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you, Mr. 7 Crooks, and we look forward to your continued 8 work. I know there's been some frustration, and 9 we'll continue to push with the Coast Guard and 10 with AWO to try to move this process, so you can 11 guys can continue your work. We look forward to 12 that report. 13 MEMBER CROOKS: Yes. The working group has invited myself and my co-chair, Mike 14 Caliendo, to the meeting in November. I plan to 15 16 attend. Mike, I don't know if you plan to 17 attend. We'll be there to encourage them, with all of our influence, to get this thing wrapped 18 19 up, so we can get moving. 20 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, thank you, Mr. Crooks. 21 22 MEMBER CROOKS: All right, thank you

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1	all.
2	RECOMMENDATIONS ON ELECTRONIC CHARTING SYSTEMS
3	(ECS) CARRIAGE ON TOWING VESSELS (TASK 15-03)
4	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We're going to be
5	hooking up a laptop computer, rather than trying
6	to show some of the presentations that we had
7	yesterday on although very neat technology
8	using an iPhone, we think it's probably more
9	appropriate that we do it with a laptop.
10	At this point, we have Mr. Lagarde,
11	who's going to come up and give us a status
12	report from the subcommittee concerning the
13	recommendations on electronic charting systems
14	carriage on towing vessels, Task No. 15-03.
15	While he gets started, I want to take this
16	opportunity to thank Mr. Walters, our Coast Guard
17	technical representative on this task. I want to
18	extend to him our appreciation. This is one of
19	the few tasks where we have had diligent
20	participation and guidance from our Coast Guard
21	technical representative. We really appreciate
22	that. It tends to make the process work much

more efficiently for our subcommittee chairs to do their hard work. We really appreciate that. So thank you for attending both yesterday and today, as well. Thank you very much. With that, we're just about ready to queue up Mr. Lagarde and the presentation. With that, we'll turn it over to Mr. Lagarde.

MEMBER LAGARDE: Yesterday, for those of you that were here, I had the report up. I'm going to try to simplify this down a little bit. This PowerPoint's a little easier to look at than the report is, I guess. What I'm going to do is just kind of go over the highlights of the task and kind of explain where we're at with everything.

16I'm going to start with acronyms17because it's kind of been brought to my attention18that it's very technical. There's a lot of19acronyms; it's kind of hard to follow. I've20thrown a couple up here, so we kind of go over21these from the beginning. The task is for22electronic charting systems. That's where we're

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starting at. ECS, when I refer to ECS, that's going to be an electronic charting system. ECDIS is an electronic chart display and information system. That's the big daddy, international sailing navigation systems that are approved under the international community rules. IMO, International Maritime Organization. These are the guys that kind of make

the rules to the international committee. The IHO is the International Hydrographic Organization. These are the guys that make the rules about charts, so a lot of the stuff that the Army Corps, that NOAA and stuff is going to coordinate with the International Hydrographic Organization.

16The Radio Technical Committee for17Maritime, years and years and years and years18ago, started as a FACA, an advisory committee.19It has morphed into a non-profit group of20organizations that put together technical advice21on electronic equipment. This works in22conjunction with the International

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Electrotechnical Committee. I'll show you how some of that stuff works because the RTCM is going to put together the requirements for the U.S. flag stuff, but it's mostly based off of the international community stuff. That's some of the acronyms you're going to hear throughout this presentation. Tasking 15-03 was accepted at TSAC fall of last year. When we received the task, it was promulgated by the fact that RTCM had finally come out and put together a set of standards for electronic charting systems. There had been some stuff out there for ECDIS, but there had not been anything out there for electric charting systems. They put that stuff together in 2015. The task group was asked to look at that RTCM document, provide the Coast Guard with some guidance based off that RTCM document.

19We thought that this was going to be20pretty straightforward, that we were going to21take the Class A, Class B, Class C, Class D22systems that RTCM had described in their

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document, and that we were just going to 1 basically figure out which vessels these should 2 apply to. We were going to try to figure out 3 4 what the backup arrangements were going to use. 5 We were trying to make recommendations on how to train for these different systems, what vessels 6 should be waived, and we were going to raise 7 8 awareness of cybersecurity risks. In the 9 original tasking, as this was going through vetting, cybersecurity was more of a part of it. 10 11 We kind of recommended that we take a step back 12 on the cybersecurity. 13 We're going to talk about awareness in the task, but there's so many interconnected 14 pieces of electronic equipment on the boat that 15 cybersecurity should be its own ballpark task. 16 17 There's just too much stuff to cover. If we started handling every cybersecurity issue 18 19 addressed with ECS and downloading charts and updates and all that stuff, this would've 20 completely gotten bogged down. 21 22 We were supposed to have a final

report to the Coast Guard by spring of 2016, so that they could take our recommendations and prepare the NVIC and get it out the door, so that the NVIC would allow use in carriage of electronic charting systems, to do away with the paper charts. The NVIC popped out the door in February of 2016, before we had a formal report. As we started picking the RTCM standard apart, we realized that the standards that they put forth didn't consider the equipment that was already in use within the industry, widely in use within the industry. It was based off the international standards and, mostly, ECDIS requirements. The RTCM standard that we received -- and this was one of the things was we went to the RTCM website to download the document for the standards. It was \$80 for the copy. When we

17It was \$80 for the copy. When we18clicked on the link, we got an old copy. It19wasn't the most up-to-date copy, even though the20website said it was. We started peeling back the21layers. Most of the RTCM 109 document referred22back to other documents from the IHO, from IEC,

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, 1	from IMO. It was almost \$4,000 worth of
2	documents you had to download to be able to
3	figure out what the standard was.
4	Because the RTCM 10900.6 document
5	basically said, "Yes, what they said, but," and
6	it added a couple of words. That was kind of
7	where we were struggling with everything. The
8	109 standards didn't really describe any piece of
9	equipment that was out there. They had the Class
10	A/Class B I'm going to show those on the next
11	slide but there was really nothing on the
12	market that we could use to satisfy the
13	requirements that they published. The standards
14	that we had for the 109 stuff, a lot of it had to
15	do with hardware, not what was showing up on the
16	screen, not the charts, not how the navigation
17	equipment plugged in. A lot of it had to do with
18	the hardware you were looking at the system on.
19	Again, the largest majority of the
20	systems in the industry were not considered.
21	When we looked at the classes of systems in the
22	109 paper and realized that the stuff that

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they're describing doesn't exist, and the stuff 1 that exists doesn't meet what they're describing, 2 3 we realized that this wasn't going to be a shoe-in, we were just going to figure out which 4 ones fit in what slots, and we were going to hand 5 6 this to them in the spring. 7 We kind of went back to the drawing board and worked with the Coast Guard to kick the 8 9 due date on this back to the fall, so we can get 10 a little bit more time to wrap our heads around 11 the problem. We got the extension, and we were 12 also asked to take a look at the NVIC and see if -- with the new NVIC coming out, how did that 13 14 affect everything? Again, NVIC 01-16 was originally intended to allow the use of 15 electronic charts. The tasking of the committee 16 17 was to provide recommendations on a requirement to carry this stuff. The NVIC was designed to 18 19 allow carriage of the stuff. But the NVIC did 20 kind of confuse everybody when we started realizing that it really didn't fix anything. 21 22 It just kind of confused everybody a

little bit more. There's a couple of things 1 we're looking at. The subcommittee really got 2 3 down into two problems that really presented itself. The first thing was chart equivalency. 4 5 So 01-16 was designed to provide chart equivalency. What do you need to do to meet the 6 7 chart carriage requirements? The problem was all the extra stuff 8 9 that goes into the 109 requirements, everything 10 else that goes into the ECS requirements goes way 11 above and beyond the chart carriage. The chart 12 only needs to do four things, pretty much, according to regulation. It needs to be for the 13 14 appropriate area and produced by a government organization, large enough scale and detail to 15 navigate safely, and it needs to be current 16 17 corrected or most recent edition, if you're operating on Western Rivers. AIS targets showing 18 19 up on a piece of paper, all this other eMSI data 20 doesn't show up on a piece of paper, so all this additional equipment and function that goes in 21 22 with ECS really shoots way above and beyond chart

, 1	equivalency.
2	Saying that if you have the ECS, you
3	meet the chart carriage requirements seemed like
4	let's get to the chart carriage satisfaction,
5	then we'll talk about all the additional stuff we
6	want to see. Again, this gets back to the paper
7	charts being replaced do not display all this
8	other stuff.
9	We're just going way above and beyond.
10	Most recent edition of the Lower Mississippi
11	River Flood Control map, this is one of the
12	problems we get into with the paper charts we're
13	using now versus the electronic charts that are
14	available.
15	The paper charts everybody carries
16	onboard their boats right now, again, Western
17	Rivers, most recent edition. The Army Corps
18	flood control map and navigation maps for the
19	lower Mississippi are from 2007. That's the most
20	recent edition. They don't have any intent on
21	producing another paper copy. They quit
22	producing paper copies in 2014. They're not

going to be a new edition of that. The way the reg's written right now, ten years from now, we can conceivably be using a 20-year-old chart on a river that changes course every spring, depending on what the floods do. We've got to fix this. We've got to get away from the paper charts.

We have got to get to the electronic charts. The charts that the Corps produces electronically are updated almost weekly. This should provide some sense of urgency to the Corps and the Coast Guard and NOAA. Let's get forward into the new era. Our recommendation from the subcommittee is likely to be that the U.S. Coast Guard consider the desire to replace the paper charts and graduate to a complete navigation system as two separate items.

17Let's get chart equivalency tackled.18Once we get the chart equivalency tackled, which19should be able to be handled in policy -- so20there's nowhere, anywhere in any regulation, that21says the chart must be paper. It says you've got22to have charts. They have to be produced by the

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government for the area, adequate scale, 1 currently corrected. NOAA gets to define what a 2 3 chart is, by statute. NOAA says the S-57 version of an IHO, International Hydrograph Organization, 4 5 chart is a chart. We're just getting down into how we view the chart that is really the point of 6 7 contention. That's what we're talking about. 8 The systems, as described in RTCM 109, paper not 9 available. 10 I'm going to talk a little bit about 11 this because here's where we got to with this. 12 When we realized the RTCM paper really had equipment that we couldn't find, we went to the 13 We went to the RTCM meeting in Clearwater, 14 RTCM. Florida last May. We had a conference call with 15

them, and we've had a couple of communications with them other than that.

18RTCM committee is made -- mostly made19up -- I can't say completely because I really --20if you call them, you can't get a list of the21members, but it's made up predominantly of22manufacturers. The manufacturers that have put

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out a standard that said what we're using isn't 1 good enough, I'd have to call that into question 2 because the stuff we've been using for 12 years 3 4 works. It's proven. There's no accident data 5 that goes back to a casualty being a result of an electronic chart being used. The computers, 6 7 software, and everything that we've put together 8 throughout the industry, whether it's -- there's 9 probably three-four different manufacturers out there. 10 11 The computer systems that are in place 12 on the boats can range anywhere from a laptop to 13 a computer bought from a retailer, to a computer bought straight from a manufacturer that's 14 custom-built for the application. 15 There's a wide variety of equipment out there, and it's hard to 16 put your finger straight to a piece of equipment 17 to say this is what everybody's using. 18 But in general, throughout the 19 20 industry, regardless of who you talk to, whether it be in Houston, St. Louis, East Coast, wherever 21 22 it's at, everybody acknowledges that the

equipment's reliable and it works. Of the four classes of the systems all identified, we found some shortcomings with them all. They had a Class A system which was pretty much an ECDIS, for all practical purposes. Call it what it is. An ECDIS does not have to have an AIS plugged into it. But the Class A, every description of it pretty much falls into an ECDIS. When we're sitting around the table with the RTCM, which is all manufacturers, we asked them, "What piece of equipment is this?" They said, "It's an ECDIS." "Are you going to build one to the Class A standard?" They said, "Why? If you can buy an ECDIS and plug into an AIS into it, why would we develop a new piece of equipment, certify it, and test it?" The Class B systems were pretty much

about the same thing. They were right there, exactly, almost, a Class A. Class C systems, we thought originally, in the subcommittee, that the Class C systems would kind of fit our bill. It was quickly pointed out that the hardware

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standards were what was holding us back. It's not the maps or charts or anything that anybody has a problem with.

It's really equipment. The way the standard is written, the equipment has to be purpose built, the software has to be married to the equipment, and the equipment has to be built to a standard for international voyages. It has to withstand salt spray and all kinds of other stuff, which is -- we don't do that. That's kind of the stuff we're fighting with. Then the Class D system really -- from a chart equivalency perspective, we thought that a D would probably make some sense, from chart equivalency. From an electronic chart system, the D did not make as much sense because the D didn't require stuff to be plugged into it. AIS didn't have to plug into it.

19It didn't have to receive the eMSI20data, as described in the RTCM 109 document. But21when we get into talking about chart equivalency22over here and we're talking about electronic

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charting systems over here, the D should have 1 some function somewhere. The RTCM put all this 2 3 effort into describing what a Class D system is, but the RTCM, Coast Guard, and others have said 4 that the D isn't suitable for navigation. 5 If the D wasn't suitable for 6 7 navigation, the subcommittee wanted to know why we're even talking about it. Why is it on the 8 9 list? Why does it say, "Class D ECS," if it's 10 not an ECS, and it's not suitable? There's got 11 to be an application somewhere, where this thing fits, even if it's a backup. Because it does put 12 your position on a map, shows your position in 13 relation to other stuff, and shows your course 14 and speed. This is a -- IHO 66 document explains 15 16 that an ECS can be a simple hand-held instrument, 17 GPS-enabled, that displays a chart. There's a precedent; there's a description in there for 18 19 that. We think there's an application. Everyone 20 else was chucking the D out the window. The subcommittee feels the D needs to 21 22 stay on the list somewhere, for something. In

the void of regulation -- the U.S. Coast Guard 1 Reauthorization Act of 2004 required the Coast 2 Guard to put together rules explaining ECS 3 4 requirements by 2007. I was building boats in 5 I had to make a choice on wheelhouse 2007. equipment. I'm digging through all kinds of 6 7 stuff, trying to figure out where this 8 regulation's at, and I couldn't find it because 9 it wasn't there. The Coast Guard was waiting on RTCM to 10 publish the standard, so it just got pushed back. 11 Need is the mother of invention. We have this 12 13 huge hole. We have a lack of guidance. We have a lack of regulation. But we still have a need 14 that needs to be filled. Manufacturers, the 15 towing community stepped up, they got together. 16 17 They devised a system of equipment that works. Now, it's been through many iterations. Just to 18 19 throw a couple names out there, CX, CNS, Captain 20 Voyager, Rose Point, and not to endorse any one system, but throughout the industry, Rose Point, 21 22 through process of elimination, market choice,

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1	whatever, has kind of risen to the top and is
2	pretty prevalent throughout the industry.
3	It meets all the functional
4	requirements that are described in the RTCM
5	document. The only thing, again, we're hung up
6	on is the hardware. The bulk of the industry
7	already has all this stuff out there. The guys
8	are trained on it. Whether you acknowledge it as
9	a primary navigation device or don't acknowledge
10	it as a primary navigation device, it's sitting
11	on the dash of almost every towboat I've ever
12	been on.
13	When the guys are navigating, that's
14	what they look at. There's a set of paper charts
15	on the boat because they have to have a set of
16	paper charts on the boat. But when it comes to
17	making a decision or trying to evaluate some
18	passing arrangements, they're not grabbing a
19	piece of paper and looking at that to figure out
20	what's going on. They're looking at an
21	electronic chart system that's sitting on the
22	dash. These things are in use. They've been in

use for over ten years. So again, in here, the 1 manufacturers that manufacturer the RTCM-class 2 equipment are looking at a market that's already 3 4 saturated with equipment. 5 They're not going to develop equipment and test equipment to meet the RTCM standard for 6 7 a market that's already saturated and they're not 8 going to sell anything into, unless the Coast 9 Guard says to. Now, if the Coast Guard comes back and says this is the only thing available, 10 11 then we've got this huge lag between the 12 equipment we've got available today and 13 development, testing, and certifications of systems years down the road, if that makes sense 14 15 to everybody. So they haven't done anything with 16 this. 17 The other thing that comes back into the task statement was what systems are required on 18 which vessels? The subcommittee comes down to 19 20 really, there's two ways to look at this. There's boats that plot courses, and there's 21 22 boats that don't plot courses. The boats that

plot courses offshore or may plot courses 1 offshore, where you've got an ocean of water or 2 3 gulf of water, bay of water, whatever you want to call it, where you can't see the underwater 4 5 hazards. If you lose your navigation system, you've got to look around, and you've got to 6 figure out where you're at, get a position fix, 7 and figure out where you are relative to the 8 9 dangers. 10 On boats that operate on rivers and 11 canals, you can see the bank. If the system 12 fails, you stop. It's not -- again, I'll go back to Z. David's quote last week, "People don't get 13 14 lost at river, they get lost at sea." When we talk about backup arrangements or what systems 15 should be used where, there's a different level 16 17 of risk on rivers than there are in open water. The equipment that's out there now is 18 19 proven to be reliable. We think the backup 20 battery arrangements that are out there are reasonable. Everybody, whether you're using a 21 22 laptop, or you're using an iPad and it's plugged

into the wall, or you're using the desktop with 1 the APC or APU backup battery, everybody's pretty 2 3 much got that already, so we didn't think that was out of whack. The use of high-quality 4 5 components seemed to be reasonable. Now, there 6 was arguments made in the RTCM discussions about, 7 "I don't want a guy going to Wal-Mart and buying a laptop off the shelf, putting it on a boat, and 8 9 navigating with it." The question the 10 subcommittee had for them was, "If it works, what 11 difference does it make where it came from?" 12 We think that the manufacturer of the 13 software has system requirements. They tell you how much memory it needs to have. They give you 14 a list of stuff that it needs to be able to do to 15 16 perform that function. The backup arrangements 17 should be addressed in its own safety management system and applicable to the route. 18 19 If you're operating in a place where 20 failure of the ECS is critical, or your electronic chart is critical, then you should 21 22 have a backup computer in some way, shape, or

form, whether it's a Wal-Mart computer that meets the requirements of the manufacturer or it comes straight, purpose built, from some guys out in Silicon Valley. So long as it meets the requirement to run the system, and it is running the system, it should be acceptable. Redundant systems are reasonable. The industry-promulgated solution to this hole in electronic navigation, the manufacturers that pop up to the top of the list provide two licenses per boat. If you have a system on a boat, you pay for the license to run the system, you automatically get the right to put it on two computers on that one vessel. When we're talking about backup

arrangements, regardless of how fancy the initial computer setup you've got is, whether you spend \$500 on that computer or you spend \$3,000 on that computer to hook it up, for \$300, you can get a computer to run as a backup. We go back to some other issues, where the offshore community SOLAS vessels have the authority to run paper charts as backup.

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The subcommittee feels that should be 1 an option somewhere on the table. If you wanted 2 3 to actually maintain the paper charts, as hard as that is, it should be an option, but we don't 4 5 think it's the best option. The reason being is because it defeats the whole purpose of what the 6 7 Coast Guard's trying to accomplish with eNav, which is being able to view eMSI data, being able 8 9 to overlay your AIS data and everything on your 10 charts. We think that if you're going to do it, 11 you should be able to provide for the backup, but 12 again, it's on rivers, where you're not going to get lost. Your system goes down, you should be 13 able to just stop. To touch on that, the RTCM 14 requirements in the NVIC require backup 15 16 arrangements. When you're on a towing vessel, 17 you've got to have one searchlight; you've got to have one radar; you've got to have one AIS; 18 19 you've got to have one GPS, all the stuff that 20 feeds into your ECS. Even if you had two completely 21 22 separate ECSs sitting on the dash, you've got one

AIS. If it goes out -- and it's not a no-sail 1 If it goes out, you call the Coast Guard, 2 item. 3 "My AIS went out," get an order to proceed, but then nothing's feeding in either ECS, regardless. 4 5 We were wondering why there was such a hard stance taken on the backup arrangements for the 6 7 ECS, for this purpose, by right now, you're not even allowed to use it. 8 9 If it goes out, it's not really a 10 problem. Again, there's going to be situations 11 where a backup shouldn't be mandatory. The 12 backup should be something that we take a look This is, again, the stuff that you don't 13 at. have to have two of on a boat to operate. 14 Paper charts being as an acceptable backup to ECDIS --15 again, they weren't really described in the RTCM 16 17 document for the ECSs. They wanted a pair of ECSs, didn't make a whole lot of sense. We're 18 19 going to talk a little bit about chart keeping. 20 We, as a company, probably go through about \$3,000 worth of charts a year on a boat 21 22 operating between Houston and Louisville,

Kentucky. That's the cost of the ECS, honestly. The quicker we can get this approved as chart carriage, then the better off we are. Training requirements -- we came to training requirements on stuff. That was one of the things we were asked to look at. MERPAC was also tasked with the same thing.

It's one of the little hiccups we had 8 9 because MERPAC was tasked on looking at training 10 requirements under the RTCM 109 guidance for 11 Class A, Class B, Class C, Class D systems. When 12 we come back to talking about a software-based -a platform independent software-based system was 13 14 how the international committee at the eNav conference described it and endorsed. They said, 15 16 "We're looking at training requirements that were 17 not described in the MERPAC Task 92 statements." What we're also going to recommend in our report 18 19 is that the training for the software-based 20 system and the Class D system, which was kicked out of the MERPAC report, follow the MERPAC 21 22 guidance, which is basically for companies to do

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1	in-house training, proficiency-based training,
2	certificated or record the training in some way,
3	and if an auditor or Coast Guard investigator,
4	something, gets on the boat, be able to produce
5	records of that training and proficiency.
6	We thought that kind of makes sense.
7	We couldn't just swallow wholeheartedly say,
8	"What MERPAC said," so we've added a component in
9	there for the software-based system, and we've
10	added a component in there for the Class D
11	system, where it applies. The ECDIS system for
12	the Class A systems made complete sense under the
13	MERPAC stuff.
14	If the ECDIS is the Class A,
15	apples/oranges, whatever you want to call them,
16	then that made sense. From the training aspect,
17	we felt what we wanted to avoid was the
18	catch-22 we've been in with the radar training.
19	Every five years, I've got to go recertify for a
20	radar class, and I have to demonstrate
21	proficiency in a skill which I'll never use on a
22	boat. I've got to do this every five years.

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1	This not appliable to what the inland community
1	It's not applicable to what the inland community
2	does. It may be applicable to the offshore
3	community, but the bulk of the mariners are on
4	the Western Rivers and the Inland Canal. Because
5	of regulation, we go do this.
6	We go through the motions. You study
7	right before you go take your exam, and then you
8	put it on a shelf for five years because we don't
9	use it. We didn't want that to become the same
10	thing with the ECDIS. Regardless of whether you
11	run a Rose Point or a SEAC or a CNS or whatever
12	you're going to run on your boat, it needs to be
13	applicable to the system you're using.
14	You need to be able to use that
15	system, and you've got to demonstrate
16	proficiency. You're not going to do that in a
17	classroom once every five years. The towing
18	vessels operate in limited local areas. I'm
19	going to get back into we were also asked to
20	provide some guidance on which vessels should be
21	waived from ECS carriage requirements.
22	Everybody's still got some charting requirement

that they need to meet. Whether you carry paper 1 charts under 33 C.F.R. 164, or electronic chart 2 3 over whatever we come out of this task with, there's waiver parameters in place. 4 In 33 164.70, it describes that 5 6 vessels operating in a limited geographic area, 7 assistance towing vessels, and other vessels that the OCMI deems so are exempt from certain chart 8 9 carriage requirements under 164.72. We figured 10 that same stuff should apply -- the limited local 11 area, limited geographic, however you want to break it down on the towing vessels. 12 We think that really needs to fall 13 into the same breakdown that they use for the 14 limited local area licensing. AIS exemptions 15 cover one nautical mile up and down river, which 16 17 is too tight to make any sense for navigation within a fleet. 18 19 Most of the fleets on the lower 20 Mississippi River and a lot of the ones up on the Ohio River spread out over miles, and the boats 21 22 just operate within those areas. They may go a

mile or two upriver, go to a dock, drop a barge 1 off, and come back. They're not going to get 2 3 lost in that stretch. They've still got to carry an AIS, which is telling everyone around them 4 5 where they are, who they are, what they're doing. They've still got to carry that equipment, but 6 7 whether that guy carries an ECS on that boat or not is really not fundamentally important. 8 We think the local OCMI should define what those 9 areas are based off of traffic. 10 Could be different in Houston if 11 12 you're running up and down through there. The AIS projection on the screen may make a little 13 bit more sense. But in general, we think the 14 OCMI should decide what areas are "limited local 15 16 The assistance towing guys have been areas". 17 excepted from the Subchapter M requirements. There is an exemption for them for 18 19 certain chart carriage requirements under .72, in 20 33 C.F.R. 164, and their wheelhouses are tiny, in most cases. We've got to take a look at what 21 22 makes sense for those boats. I'm pretty sure

they know where the shoals are because they're 1 going to drag people off of them. Let's take a 2 3 look at that as it makes sense. Voyage data recorders; here's another one. On the RTCM Class 4 5 A and Class B systems, there's a voyage data requirement, not really described on what needs 6 7 to be captured and how long it needs to be captured for. C doesn't have that. The bulk of 8 9 the towing industry that's operating right now on 10 the software-based systems have it. We were kind 11 of expecting more of an argument within the subcommittee on voyage data recorders versus not 12 13 voyage data recorders. 14 Honestly, nobody really had a problem with it because the bulk of the equipment in 15 place does it. There's not a lot of guidance on 16 17 what it needs to be able to do. The argument by the Coast Guard that the C carriage requirement 18 19 under RTCM needed to have the voyage data 20 recorders kind of centered around casualty data, on being able to turn over your charts, with your 21 22 plot, showing your little track.

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The subcommittee looked at this, and 1 we kicked it around, and we read the regulations. 2 3 We picked them apart, and we honestly couldn't find anywhere where it specifically said that. 4 5 It's just an interpretation. When we come back 6 to our requirement to carry a voyage data 7 recorder -- function within the electronic charting system, we think that should be a 8 9 "should", and not a "must". We think it's 10 admirable to have it, but we don't think it 11 should be required. The subcommittee's further 12 going to recommend that if the Coast Guard's interested in voyage data recorders, then that 13 should be a spin-off tasking to decide the dos 14 and don'ts and how much data to record, what data 15 needs to be recorded, the format in which that's 16 17 turned over. We think that needs to be its own 18 19 thing. Again, the Rose Point systems prevalently 20 in use throughout the industry do it, so we're not as hung up on that as possible. You don't 21 22 want to write a hard requirement in there because

there's systems out there that may not. 1 2 Subcommittee members are eager to adapt a process 3 to transition from paper charts to electronic charts. 4 5 The Coast Guard needs to be make this happen. 6 It needs to be sooner, rather than 7 Again, the paper charts are sitting in later. the back of the wheelhouse, in many cases. 8 The 9 guys are using the ECS. They've been using them 10 for ten years. Let's call it what it is. It 11 meets the chart carriage requirements, as 12 described by NOAA, who gets to decide what a chart is. If it's faithfully reproducing the 13 S-57 chart, we need to just go ahead and swallow 14 that pill and get past it. The paper charts have 15 16 to be currently correct or the most recent 17 editions. We're either going to be using the ten-year-old chart that isn't corrected because 18 it's legal, or they're going to be trying to make 19 20 corrections to paper charts. It's nearly impossible to do on a 21 22 Western Rivers towboat. Policy Letter 10-05 says

you can carry all your nautical publications electronically, except your Rules of the Road and your chart. Nowhere in any regulation where you're required to the stuff does it say you've got to carry a paper copy. It just says it's policy. It's not regulation.

When you take all these electronic nautical publications and you sit down with all the stuff on a computer screen and you're trying to mark a chart up to make sure it's kept up to date, and you have 20,000 mariners out there doing it differently -- they're trying to do it the same way, but I'm sure that mark doesn't end up in exactly the same spot on every chart. Wouldn't it be better if we used the system that we have now, and once a week, the system went and updated the charts and everybody had the same mark on their chart? It would make a whole lot more sense. The technology's already there. All we have to do is embrace it. The integrations of the GPS, which is

your electronic position fixing advice, your

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automatic identification, and your eMSI data, which is what we're trying to get to to begin with, being projected on the chart, the systems that are out there now do it. They already receive this information. They already project it on the screen. It's already there. The technology exists. All we're arguing over is the equipment.

9 If we prolong this transition over to 10 these electronic charting systems, then all of 11 the work that the Coast Guard's working on with synthetic buoys and eMSI data and all that stuff, 12 while it's available and you're working on it and 13 you want that information to get to the mariner, 14 you're also telling them that you can't use that 15 16 for navigation, for primary navigation. We've 17 got to get past this. Again, two steps, equivalency, then full system integration. Adopt 18 19 what we've got now, then we'll work out the 20 details. The RTCM guidelines, where they come out -- the Coast Guard's been using RTCM 21 22 guidelines for decades. It made sense in some

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instances. The RTCM guidance came out, said this is what an AIS is, and then later on, you all told us to go buy AISs.

We said, "Okay, we'll buy that one because they built it." This is one of those situations where you had an opportunity to tell us what we needed to buy before we bought it. Now, 12 years later, we've already got the equipment. Now you're telling us we should have bought this ten years ago, even though it doesn't exist. That's kind of where we're at.

12 The risk-based requirements should take into account the areas of operations. 13 Backup carriage and waiver considerations should 14 be risk based and sensible. Only make them carry 15 a backup if the backup is going to add value to 16 17 the situation. The backup should be not necessarily equal to -- if you lose a Class C 18 19 system or software-based system going across the 20 Gulf, or going across, let's say, the Mississippi Sound, and you've got an iPad that can run a D 21 22 system that basically works like the navigation

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system in your car -- it'll tell you where you're 1 at, where you're going, and where the dangers are 2 3 -- and you can get from Point A to Point B -- the only thing it doesn't show you is all the other 4 5 targets, which you can see. There's only one 6 direction they're going to be. 7 It's on a reciprocal course on these canals -- then that should be acceptable. 8 Ι 9 actually put this presentation together for the 10 eNav conference last week, which I'm going to 11 touch base on that a little bit, too. After all 12 the discussions with the RTCM 109 committee, where RTCM 109 committee acknowledged that they 13 did not consider our equipment when they put 14 together these standards, we had some conference 15 calls. 16 17 They said, "We'll talk about amending the standard to include your equipment." About 18 19 two weeks ago, they came back and said, "No, 20 we're not going to change our standard. You're just going to have to deal with our stuff." 21 22 Again, the manufacturers are telling us that

they're not going to work with the stuff we already bought. They want us to go buy new stuff. It doesn't make any sense. We got to the eNav conference, which is the international The guys in the Netherlands and the community. guys in Denmark operating on the Rhine River and the inland waters over there have what they call an ECDIS light, which is basically what we've They go buy a laptop. got. They put the nav software on it. They put the pilot plug into it to feed the AIS and GPS data into it, and they navigate off these things. The guys in the Netherlands, it's iPads sitting on the dash. That's what the pilots are operating on over there. It's not like there's no precedent in the international community, regardless of what the RTCM is saying or the international electric technical committee's saying. There's a precedent for the stuff out there. A lot of the foreign European communities

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were in support of what we've got. Again, they

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came up with the phrase platform independent software-based system. It means user gets to go buy what he wants. The software's not attached to the equipment. We get to go choose it, put it together. So long as it works, it's good. There were certain markets on the other side of the world that were kind of vehemently opposed to seeing the United States develop a software-based I'm not going to go into too much system. detail, but where the equipment's made -- but they have fishing boats in their coastal waters not having ECS. Again, it's not a domestic issue. The argument came down to should the software-based systems comply with an international standard? But we ended up settling on a recommendation from the eNav conference that the systems should be compatible with the international standards. It should take into

account the IHO guidelines for display. The systems should talk to one another, which they do through the AISs.

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1	Our AIS broadcasts stuff in
2	international format. Their AIS broadcasts in
3	international format. There shouldn't be any
4	conflict there. What happens to the electrons
5	once they get inside the wheelhouse should fall
6	into a whole different realm. Again, we want to
7	work on doing our final report is going to put
8	together some functional requirements of the
9	systems for chart equivalency. This is the stuff
10	it should do, must do, or may do, depending on
11	chart equivalency. Then we've got a separate set
12	of functional requirements based off of ECS
13	requirement, which is all the integration of the
14	different navigational functions. There's going
15	to be different sets of must, should, and may for
16	those systems.
17	That's in the final report. We're
18	less concerned this subcommittee is less
19	concerned with how the magic happens. We're more
20	concerned with what magic comes out of the box
21	and helps us navigate the boats differently. I'm
22	going to back into all wheelhouses are not
•	-

created the same, so you can't just have a one-size-fits-all approach to putting the staff in the wheelhouse.

You'll see one of the assistance towing boat wheelhouses up on the left-hand side. You're not going to cram another screen in there. You're not going to put a mandatory piece of equipment up there. It's just not going to fit. The lower left-hand corner, you'll see the wheelhouse from one of our boats operating on the If this ECS goes off, I don't think he's canal. going to be lost. It's pretty much a bank on one side, and there's a bank on the other side. But any more screens in there, I'm going to start losing windows. We need to take a look at that. When you talk about backup arrangements, I can't put additional screens in there. I should have a way to swap one screen over or have some laptop or something I can replace something with. That's a different consideration.

That lower right-hand corner's one of our bigger boats. There's plenty of room on that dash.

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That's one of those situations where we're not 1 required to carry two radars, but we do because 2 3 it makes sense for us. I have options on those boats. All routes, all wheelhouses are not 4 5 equal. That's pretty much what I have for 6 7 The status of the report right now, I've now. got it about as far as I can run it to ground. 8 9 The RTCM stuff, we can't use it as it is, or 10 shouldn't use it as it is, because the equipment 11 prevalent throughout the industry is already 12 there. If we take all the equipment that we've got and we walk away from it, then we've got to 13 re-equip 6,000 towing vessels and retrain 20,000 14 mariners on new equipment. That's not adding one 15 16 iota of safety to inland nav, on top of the fact 17 that the lag between getting the equipment designed and approved and certified, prior to 18 19 getting to that point, just doesn't make any 20 sense. We've got a track record 10 to 12 years old with equipment. 21 22 The equipment surpasses the abilities

and requirements of the RTCM guidance, with the 1 2 exception of the hardware. There's no casualty 3 data that the subcommittee received from the Coast Guard that pointed to a problem with the 4 5 systems anywhere. Systems are widely in use; they're easily updated; they're user friendly. 6 7 The guys I know operate in open water routes. I've got friends operating boats in 8 9 Mexico right now that have ECDIS because they 10 need ECDIS, but they don't trust the ECDIS. They 11 walk to the back of the wheelhouse and look at 12 their Rose Point system to judge whether or not the ECDIS is telling them the truth because it's 13 14 an easier to system to use. It's more accurate; it's got more features on it. We really need to 15 take this stuff into account. Just because the 16 17 international community is going off on this tangent, where they want equipment built this way 18 19 because they know we'll buy it, doesn't mean 20 that's the way we need to go with stuff. I've got the report about as far as I can. 21 I have 22 distributed it to the subcommittee and to the

TSAC committee for tweaks, so to speak. What I'm 1 looking for is just structural stuff, pretty 2 3 much, on the report. Mr. Chairman, I hope to have a final, 4 5 final, final copy to you on November 4th, or by November 4th, so I can get this albatross that 6 7 has become this monster off my neck. It has been an adventure in trying to figure out all the ins 8 and outs of international standards and the 9 10 alphabet soup of acronyms associated with it. 11 It's been rewarding engaging the 12 international community and finding out their views on what's going on. But I'm ready to 13 finalize this as soon as possible, so that the 14 Coast Guard can take this and run with it and, 15 16 hopefully, adopt the systems that we have now for 17 chart carriage requirements. Then we can work towards the ECS. 18

19CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you, Mr.20Lagarde, for a very comprehensive report, very21detailed report yesterday, as well. I'll open22the floor, at this point, for any TSAC members

1	who have any questions for Mr. Lagarde. Mr.
2	Vitt.
3	MEMBER VITT: Mr. Lagarde, great
4	report. The voyage data recorder references you
5	made, not in the regulations that I could find.
6	MEMBER LAGARDE: Correct, we couldn't
7	find them either. The standard for the voyage
8	data recorders rests within the RTCM 109 guidance
9	for Class A and Class B systems. There's a
10	requirement. It doesn't describe what that
11	requirement is. It just says they have to have
12	that capability. There's no clear guidance on
13	how much or what needs to be captured in that.
14	The Class C systems, which we feel
15	that the software-based systems that we're using
16	more closely represent, that requirement doesn't
17	exist for those systems in Class C. The Coast
18	Guard asked us to strongly consider requiring
19	that from a casualty investigation standpoint,
20	but there's no regulatory requirement that we
21	could find that would require that voyage data
22	recorder.

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1	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any other
2	questions?
3	MEMBER LAGARDE: Mr. Johansson.
4	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Johansson.
5	VICE CHAIRMAN JOHANSSON: Great
6	report. I could see your struggles with trying
7	to get all of this put together in regard to the
8	different levels of acceptance of different
9	organizations. In the tasking, also, was not
10	only the acceptance of some sort of electronic
11	charting system, but also the training on that
12	system, too. I don't think it was addressed in
13	here, or did I miss it?
14	MEMBER LAGARDE: You might have missed
15	it. What we said was if you go by the RTCM
16	standards MERPAC had a tasking, No. 92, in
17	spring of this year, down in Jacksonville,
18	Florida, to address the training requirements for
19	the class systems, as identified in NVIC 01-16.
20	What they effectively did was talked
21	about the Class A systems as being almost
22	equivalent to ECDIS and should follow SOLAS

training on ECDIS. They talked about the Class B 1 and the Class C systems being in-house training 2 for the companies, proficiency based, and be able 3 4 to document that proficiency-based training and 5 evaluation somehow in house. The Class D systems, again, we come back to we kept getting 6 7 that this isn't suitable for navigation. The 8 15-03 task subcommittee disagrees with that 9 assessment. We think that they fit somewhere in it. 10 11 In my final report, we're going to go 12 back to the platform independent software-based 13 system training should follow the MERPAC guidance in Task 92 for the B and C systems, and included 14 Class D systems in that recommendation, as well, 15 if the vessel's so equipped. Basically, A will 16 be SOLAS-type ECDIS training. B, C, D, and 17 software-based systems would all be in-house 18 training. 19 20 VICE CHAIRMAN JOHANSSON: Documented, 21 you said? 22 MEMBER LAGARDE: Yes, sir, proficiency

based, documented and certified, available upon request to an investigator or an auditor, as they get onboard a boat. Like all training stuff associated with other safety management systems, we don't think all that stuff needs to be on the boat. We're kind of leaning towards that should be covered in a management audit. Identifying your crew members and all those records are typically kept in the office anyway. Whether or not they want to issue a certificate that the guy can carry or not -- which we already carry some plethora of certificates that are all out of whack, out of date, in different shapes and I don't want to add anything else for a sizes. mariner to forget at home. That doesn't make any sense. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Myskowski. MEMBER MYSKOWSKI: Yes, just a The Coast Guard investigating the comment. officers in the field have, on more than one occasion, requested data recordings that a Rose

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Point has in investigating incidents.

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are already using that information or asking for it. MEMBER LAGARDE: 46-4.05 Tack 15 says that during a casualty investigation, you have to turn over charts, your logs, other navigational documentation to the Coast Guard. It does not specifically say, anywhere in that regulation, that electronic data recordings -- it doesn't say

anything about voyage data. It doesn't say anything about anything other than what's listed there. If you don't have it, there's no requirement for you to be able to get it. If you do have it, I'm sure that there's -- I'm not going to make a legal argument. If you've got it, you probably would be obligated to turn it over. What we're talking about is the obligation to capture that.

18 MEMBER MYSKOWSKI: All right. Just to
19 comments.

20 VICE CHAIRMAN JOHANSSON: One other 21 suggestion is where you've broken it down to 22 rivers and inland and, of course, the coast, I

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suggest you use the language that we're now going to be using for the LNG, which would break it down to the routes that are specified in Subchapter M.

5 MEMBER LAGARDE: That will be in the final report. Based off the recommendations I 6 7 got yesterday, we were talking about inland waters versus rivers and canals and all that. 8 9 Basically, what I went to is rivers and canals, 10 including Western Rivers, as defined in 11 46-136.100, which is the definition of Western Rivers in Subchapter M, which includes the Gulf 12 Intracoastal Canal, if that makes any sense. 13 I've got canals. I broke it down, and I can show 14 that to you guys, if you want to see it. 15 VICE CHAIRMAN JOHANSSON: I could 16 17 email you what I just pulled out of Subchapter M. It would be easier. 18 19 MEMBER LAGARDE: That's what I put in I used the definition of Western Rivers, 20 there. as defined in Subchapter M, which includes the 21 22 Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. I've got the rivers

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and canals, including Western Rivers. I've got 1 lakes, basins, sounds, coastal waters and oceans, 2 non-SOLAS as a different group, and I've got the 3 4 limited geographic/limited local area. 5 Again, when we get back into defining routes, throughout all of the different 6 7 presentations and all the different taskings I've 8 participated in over the years, Coast Guard 9 regulations are all over the book with the different definitions of routes and areas. 10 11 PARTICIPANT: They are. 12 MEMBER LAGARDE: There's not a lot of 13 clear guidance in any -- across the board that all of this applies under this, or all of this 14 applies under this. It's just kind of depending 15 on what you're talking about. In my final 16 report, I also referenced the fact that they 17 probably need to get to the bottom of that. 18 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any further 19 20 questions from TSAC members for Mr. Lagarde? Ms. Terral. 21 22 MEMBER TERRAL: Just a quick question. Matt, did you consider that they're already using electronic charts in the aviation units in the Coast Guard?

> MEMBER LAGARDE: When we were looking at the different systems, yes, we did look at the aviation systems. We were talking to the guys at the eNav conference, the guy from the Netherlands actually had a picture of the plane he flew over on. There's two guys sitting in the cockpit of a commercial airliner with iPads sitting on their laps with their voyage data, voyage plan in them.

The aviation industry's been using this stuff for years. The guys that fly planes that I know, everything they do, plan, submit, everything is done on an iPad. You know why? Because it's portable. It's reliable, fits up on the dash, so that's what the guys are using. This is the only segment of the transportation industry that's lagging behind on this. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: At this point, I

have another question. Mr. Abernathy. MR. ABERNATHY: The voyage data

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recorder, has anybody gone to NTSB to see what 1 they would like to see, or is that opening 2 3 (Simultaneous speaking)? MEMBER LAGARDE: Which is why I want 4 5 it to be another task. If we try to tackle every 6 aspect of that within us and it's the same as the 7 cybersecurity. There's a cybersecurity component that goes with this. Again, it's overarching. 8 9 There's so many different electrical 10 systems on a boat that are connected to the 11 Internet in some way, shape, or form, whether 12 it's vessel computers, your AIS spoofing, whatever you want to call it. There's so much 13 different stuff that that could just eat up 14 everything. The VDR thing, we kind of feel the 15 16 same way. 17 It's one of those subjects that is on the verge of -- I'm not going to say taboo, but 18 19 you start to get into privacy and everything 20 else. The question is what makes sense; what doesn't make sense? I think that deserves its 21 22 own argument, for argument's sake, so that you

get the best information and the best minds 1 2 sitting at the table. I talked to NTSB about some of the stuff. The NTSB was at the meeting 3 last week, talking about exactly the same stuff. 4 5 He agreed with our arguments for the software-based system because it's proven and 6 7 it's in effect. It's better than what we're using 8 paper chart wise. The NTSB is on our side with 9 10 The fact that the equipment that the bulk this. 11 of the community's already using already has a VDR built into it makes sense. Again, if we 12 ratify and accept what we have, then we're 13 already way ahead of the bar. 14 15 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: At this point, if we have no further questions from the TSAC 16 members, we'll open it up to the general public 17 for questions for Mr. Lagarde regarding the 18 19 electronic charting systems. Mr. DeLoach. 20

MR. DELOACH: Captain Kelly, I'm so happy that you're here today, as the master of the acronym. I'm going to say that one more

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time, RTCM, because you need to be focusing on 1 that with your group that reviews all of the 2 issues out here. Since 2007, we've been waiting 3 4 on a standard, and even prior to that, ten years 5 prior to that. We started putting systems together on our systems to use to navigate. 6 We 7 spend tens of thousands of dollars. Here at the eleventh and a half hour, the RTCM committee 8 9 comes in and makes a recommendation from a bunch of guys who have a -- that are manufacturers of 10 11 the devices. 12 It's a pay-to-play system for a system 13 that doesn't exist out there, that we have developed in a completely different direction. 14 If you listened to Secretary Jaenichen this 15 morning, he said we're very good at developing --16 filling holes and developing systems that are 17 very safe and economical and efficient in our 18 industry. 19 But the RTCM has now thrown a wrench 20 21 into that. I can't stand here and say that they 22 have a conflict of interest, but I can say that

they have a pecuniary interest in what they got to design or to recommend on a design. The reason I know that is I heard it last week at this same conference that Matt referred to. It was said multiple times that without our market, without the U.S. fleet of vessels to develop that system that they designed that doesn't -- that they recommend be designed and built for us, they probably wouldn't build it. That tells me it's all about the money with the manufacturers. That's the same guys who sit on the RTCM. Ι would recommend, No. 1, that you look at the appropriateness of relying on a group that has a special interest in what they're recommending to the Coast Guard for us to use in this country. It goes back to exactly what the secretary said this morning about the guy with the complaint about the ZF units or the Z drive units in this country. His issue is the same. He would love to have an advisory group say all the boats that are going to be built in this country have to have this type of system into it.

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Well, guess what? 1 They're going to get to sell them. 2 3 But he has the same problem. He has a poor technical system and a bad business model. We 4 5 have developed systems in this country that work. So I would recommend that the Coast Guard 6 7 immediately drop the idea that they need to rely on the RTCM 109 standard and proceed forth with a 8 9 recommendation that they accept what we have put 10 tens of thousands of dollars into developing. 11 It's a safe, reliable system. Thank you. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you for your 12 13 comment. Are there any further questions from the general public? Mr. McWhorter. 14 MR. MCWHORTER: Tom McWhorter, 15 actually member of MERPAC. I just kind of want 16 to tack on what the training aspect, what we 17 looked at MERPAC. Matt, you did a great job, 18 19 your committee, on peeling back the onions. 20 Because we were told why we left D out of there is don't even worry about D, from the Coast 21 22 Guard, because we don't think it even has a

chance to become approved. 1 But if you look at the training 2 elements, there's basically 12, easily could be 3 4 adopted, I think, right into whether D is a 5 system or not, which then also fits right into Subchapter M on how that training is recorded. 6 Ι 7 just wanted to make that comment. MEMBER LAGARDE: Again, we didn't want 8 9 to re-create the whole thing here. The committee members felt that the work of MERPAC was 10 admirable and relevant, so there was no sense in 11 12 trying to go back across the top of that. 13 Originally, when we first started talking about everything, the ideas that came out of the 15-03 14 committee were almost exactly in line with the 15 ideas that came out of the MERPAC committee. 16 When we really went back and looked at it, we 17 just pulled the 92 report. 18 19 I've got a copy of it off the Homeport

website. When we went back and reviewed it, it's in line with what we're thinking. We just wanted to make sure we captured the stuff that was not

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identified system wise in the MERPAC report. 1 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: 2 Any further 3 questions from the general public regarding Mr. Lagarde's report? I have a couple of process 4 5 questions, Mr. Lagarde. As the pathway forward, 6 as you stated in your report, a lot of this was 7 in flux up through last week, in terms of the eNav conference and finalizing the report that 8 9 was first presented for the first time to the full TSAC committee for consideration. 10 11 At this point, all the members have 12 received a copy of the report. You're looking for feedback back from us no later than November 13 4th, in order to finalize these recommendations 14 and finalize the report. Then at some point in 15 the near future, we would look to host an 16 17 intercessional meeting, where the committee could accept the report in a final format. Is that 18 19 your --20 MEMBER LAGARDE: That is correct, Chairman. My intent is to try to have a 21 22 finalized report -- again, the substance of the

report is pretty much set. I've run this to 1 ground, as far as I can run it to ground, unless 2 something substantially changes. 3 4 I think we have a clear vision moving 5 forward for the Coast Guard, so we're just getting down to periods and commas in that report 6 7 to make sure that there's nothing in there that 8 anyone objects to substantially on the TSAC 9 committee, so we can go for approval. I would love to get this done before 10 Thanksgiving, understand if it doesn't, but the 11 12 sooner we can get this document into the hands of 13 the Coast Guard as an approved report from TSAC, the sooner that we can legitimize the use of the 14 equipment, hopefully, moving forward. 15 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, I understand. 16 I did have one question. I noticed on -- it was 17 a discussion yesterday, but I noticed on the 18 photographs you had of the wheelhouses that in 19 20 many cases, those pictures also identify a 21 company computer or a computer or dispatching 22 system that may also be on many workboats, as

well, in terms of extra monitors and equipment. 1 I think it may be worthwhile for us to 2 consider that as one of the backup options, in 3 4 the event of a failure of the primary ECS system, 5 that you may be able to use that as an alternate to complete a voyage, until such time as the 6 7 equipment can be repaired. 8 Very similar to what we do with 9 maintenance and reporting of equipment failures today, a voyage doesn't terminate just because of 10 the loss of marine radar or echo sounding device 11 12 or any of the other navigation safety equipment, 13 that the mariner can still continue the voyage, maybe use that as a backup, which will prevent us 14 from filling up a wheelhouse, where we want clear 15 view of the outside of the wheelhouse, with 16 additional monitors and equipment. 17 MEMBER LAGARDE: I believe I covered 18 that in the discussion and also in the 19 20 recommendations. The RTCM requirements for the 21 nav computers require that nothing else can be on 22 the computer. It can't be connected to the

Internet. The international community, the way 1 they get new charts into their systems is by 2 getting that stuff onto a thumb drive and 3 4 plugging the thumb drive into their computer. Someone has to manually go in and update that 5 stuff. 6 7 The systems that the inland 8 community's using -- I say inland community, but 9 there's coastal guys using these systems, as well -- these systems automatically go once a week and 10 download this stuff straight from NOAA. Not only 11 12 do they download the charting systems, they 13 automatically download notice to mariners, automatically download any updates to the light 14 15 list, automatically download any updates to any other nautical publications, store them on a 16 backup drive. 17 From the office, I can go out and look 18 at the entire fleet of boats and see who's out of 19 20 date, and we can correct that problem. Secondly, 21 the company computer that you speak of, in the 22 Rose Point systems, that computer talks to the

Rose Point system, and the Rose Point system 1 talks to the AIS system, so the requirement for 2 3 the international community for all the systems to be doggedly separated, we think, takes away 4 5 from the functionality of the system. In the company computers we have, we drop a barge out of 6 our tow -- which you get 40-45 barges, you drop 7 one barge -- it adjust the tow diagram in your 8 9 AIS -- in your navigational display for your ECS. 10 Rose Point has the capability to tell 11 the AIS what just happened and to modify the tow dimensions accordingly, but the manufacturers of 12 the AISs have put a firewall in there that 13 prohibit the ECSs from letting them know that the 14 tow dimensions have changed. 15 16 When we go back to the AIS 17 requirements and the AIS programming guide, where there's a desire to have the tow dimensions 18 19 displayed faithfully, in meters, on a box that 20 was never designed to input this stuff, there's a solution within this ECS that can go fix it, if 21 22 we can get with the manufacturer and get that

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fixed. But the ECS manufacturer is hitting a 1 stone wall with the AIS manufacturer, who would 2 rather sell us an ECS. 3 4 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Understood. Well, 5 thank you. Mr. Crooks has another question. MEMBER CROOKS: Actually, Mr. Chairman 6 7 -- this is Jerry Crooks, TSAC -- I don't really 8 have a question. It's a point of order. I think 9 we have seen a very thoroughly prepared report. We're down to the commas and periods. I'm just 10 11 wondering why would we wait any longer to submit 12 this report to the Coast Guard? It seems to me 13 that it's ready for prime time right now. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We have not --14 obviously, it's the committee's discretion as to 15 16 how they wish to proceed on that. The issue is normally, we wish to make sure that we have these 17 posted for some period of time for the general 18 public to comment on them, as well. 19 20 Since the committee had only seen this 21 in final form at our working group yesterday, we 22 think it would be, just for the sake of

transparency, valuable for us to publish this for some period of time on Homeport and share it with the public that's been here, that had an opportunity to come and see this, before we make any final -- take any final action by the committee. That's just been our precedent in the I leave that, obviously, to the discretion past. of the committee.

MEMBER CROOKS: Thank you. I just want to pass my congratulations to Matt and his subcommittee. They did a really good job on this I think that what he said at the outset 12 task. about initially thinking that this was going to be an easy task, I think a lot of us thought the same way. It certainly turned out to be much more complicated, as it seems it happens very often.

CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you, Mr. 18 19 Crooks. Just as another point of order, usually, 20 before TSAC's going to accept a final, in our Federal Register Notice, we normally let the 21 22 public know ahead of time that we plan to vote to

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accept a final report, as that becomes part of the agenda, so that the public has a chance to comment on that. I think the pathway moving forward, my

5 recommendation to the committee would be that we continue to proceed with a review of the existing 6 7 document by members, get feedback back to Mr. 8 Lagarde. Then as soon as possible, we'll 9 schedule with the DFO for an intercessional meeting where, once we've already read the 10 11 report, we've seen his presentation, it will be 12 very easy for us to move forward and accept that 13 as a final report, and then be able to transmit that on to Admiral Thomas for further action. 14 Thank you, Mr. Lagarde, absolutely fabulous 15 report, very comprehensive. I appreciate your 16 passion that you have exhibited in developing 17 these reports and conclusions and 18 recommendations. Thank you, again, appreciate 19 20 that. 21 MEMBER LAGARDE: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Lagarde also

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was able to get us back on our agenda time. This 1 is a very in-depth report. It was very 2 comprehensive. We're within minutes of a break 3 4 that is necessary for some FACA training for the 5 TSAC members. This is a requirement of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. 6 What we intend to do is the committee 7 will remain here for a training session starting 8 9 immediately with our FACA representative. That will allow the public an extended lunch period. 10 11 As currently laid out in our agenda, we are 12 planning to reconvene after lunch, at 1300, with 13 a presentation from Mr. Luke Harden. At this point, we will break for lunch. The committee 14 members will remain here for our FACA training. 15 16 Thank you. 17 (Whereupon, the above-entitled meeting went off the record at 11:23 a.m. and went back 18 on the record at 1:04 p.m.) 19 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Our DFO kind of 20 21 tapped the mic. We got you all. We didn't bring 22 our bell or gavel here to ring us back to order,

but welcome back from lunch. During our FACA 1 training, we had some lively discussion on the 2 process of reports and how do we act on those? 3 4 It was brought up at the end of our training that 5 we might wish to reconsider the committee action on the ECS that we were discussing earlier. With 6 7 that, I'll just ask if there's any further 8 discussion from members or any motions regarding 9 our pathway forward regarding the electronics charting system? Ms. Terral. 10 11 MEMBER TERRAL: This is Joy Terral. 12 I think I'd like to have a few days to review the 13 document, rather than move forward with it at this time. 14 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: What I'm hearing is 15 I have a motion on the floor to continue to --16 for the committee to work on reviewing the 17 document. Do I have a second on that motion? 18 PARTICIPANT: I'll second that motion, 19 20 yes. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: I have a second on 21 22 the motion for the committee to continue a

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further review of Mr. Lagarde's report on the 1 electronic charting system. Any further 2 discussion? 3 4 MEMBER MYSKOWSKI: Just a question. 5 What's the concern? It seems like it was pretty well covered. 6 7 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Ms. Terral? 8 (Simultaneous speaking.) 9 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Kress. MEMBER KRESS: I'm sorry; Steve Kress. 10 I'd like to recover it. 11 12 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Ms. Terral, it's 13 your motion, so the question directed to the Chair. 14 MEMBER TERRAL: I'd like to review the 15 full document, and I'd like to stiffen up our 16 recommendations just a little bit, to clarify our 17 recommendations just a little bit. 18 19 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay. Mr. Kress, you're recognized. Any other discussion from 20 members? We have a motion on the floor to 21 22 continue to keep the matter tabled for review,

assuming that we would continue on the pathway 1 that we had described previously, before lunch, 2 3 continue on review, get comments back to Mr. Lagarde. 4 5 He's looking for a deadline by 6 November 4th to provide comments back, and the 7 committee will move forward, then, to schedule for an intercessional when the report's completed 8 9 for acceptance by the full committee. We don't 10 have a date on that yet. We'll get comments to 11 Matt and see what he can do to --VICE CHAIRMAN JOHANSSON: The updated 12 report is reflected by the comments that we made 13 today? Eric Johansson; I'm sorry. Thank you, 14 Matt, I'm asking that the updated report, 15 reflective of the routes and all that other 16 17 stuff, you'll have that to us --MEMBER LAGARDE: Matt Lagarde with 18 19 TSAC. The copy I sent out last night to the members had the route corrections in it. It had 20 some additional stuff on cybersecurity, and some 21 22 other comments that were after the conversations

yesterday. All the questions that came up during 1 the discussion today, during the presentation, 2 were stuff that had been captured. I didn't hear 3 4 anything new today, that wasn't discussed 5 yesterday and wound up in the document. The document that you have is the most 6 7 current copy. Like I said, I ask that I get all 8 updates sent in by the 4th. I'll book the 9 additional, the revised copy, pass that data out to the group, and then we'll schedule the 10 11 intercessional from there. 12 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: For the benefit of 13 the general public, if there's any other comments that you have for the subcommittee on the 14 electronic charting system, we would ask you to 15 get in touch with Mr. Lagarde, or any other 16 issues related to that before we move forward. 17 The motion on the floor has been 18 seconded. At this time, we'll call for a vote to 19 20 continue to keep that report tabled, working toward a final review of the report. All those 21 22 in favor, say aye.

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1	(Chorus of ayes.)
2	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any opposed, say
3	nay.
4	(No audible response.)
5	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Hearing none
6	opposed, are there any abstentions?
7	MEMBER LAGARDE: I will abstain from
8	that.
9	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Lagarde, it's
10	noted that he abstains. With that, we'll
11	continue moving forward for Mr. Harden,
12	apologize. We had a little bit of administrative
13	business to get on, but we're pretty much right
14	back on the schedule.
15	At this point, we have a question and
16	answer presentation from the Mariner
17	Credentialing Program and the standup of the
18	Coast Guard Headquarters Office of Merchant
19	Mariner Credentialing. Mr. Luke Harden, I think
20	many of us already know Mr. Harden, and we're
21	very pleased to have you here today.
22	PRESENTATION, QUESTION AND ANSWER ON THE MARINER

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1	CREDENTIALING PROGRAM-STAND OF CG HEADQUARTERS
2	OFFICE OF MERCHANT MARINER CREDENTIALING
3	MR. HARDEN: Thank you very much. My
4	name is Luke Harden, as they said, and I'm from
5	the Office of Merchant Mariner Credentialing.
6	This is a new office, as of July 1, 2016,
7	although I'm not sure if that was the official
8	standup date, but that's the date we started
9	working as a full office. As many of you know,
10	I've been involved with the towing industry, at
11	least the regulatory side of it, since 1999, and
12	prior to that as an REC chief in St. Louis,
13	Missouri.
14	In the past, the organizational
15	structure for my office worked under two
16	different directors, under Captain Gifford at
17	5PC, and Mr. Lantz of 5PS. Basically, we had the
18	regulatory side that worked under one director,
19	and the policy and implementation side that
20	worked under another director. This caused some
21	organizational challenges.
22	The office consolidated under one
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director, currently Mr. Lantz, at 5PS, underneath the admiral. Now we have a single office at Coast Guard Headquarters that deals with credentialing matters. The regulatory and policy group are both working together. Currently, that's under Ms. Medina, who is acting office chief. Here's our rationale. We were looking at giving better customer service because we recognize that there was some disconnect, sometimes, between the regulatory side and the policy side. Also, when you came to me with a question, I would coordinate my answer with the regulatory side. Sometimes, that all worked -it was jumping through hoops to get that done. The other is we're looking at consistency. We're looking at a single director who's dealing with all issues. On the appeal matters, it's the same

director who's also working on the information for the National Maritime Center, who's also working on the regulatory issues. Then efficiency, just because we had some duplication

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at the headquarters level, where I would have 1 people I would send -- for instance, we would 2 send two people to TSAC, one from the regulatory 3 4 side and one from the policy side. 5 It really made no sense. Although, towards the end, we were saying flip the coin. 6 7 Who's going to what meetings? We were doing our 8 own efficiency of saying only one of the two 9 offices would be represented, but sometimes that didn't meet the customer's need. Our functions 10 11 have stayed the same. MERPAC is being run out of 12 MMC-1. They are also the ones responsible for 13 writing the regulations. MMC-2, which is my division, still works on the policy standards and 14 15 implementation matters. We also deal with appeals, which I'll talk briefly about today just 16 because I get the chance. That division is also 17 the division responsible for the Merchant Mariner 18 Medical Advisory Committee. What we've been 19 20 working on are -- we're still working on NVICs. 21 We're working on changes to the NVICs, 22 and we work on appeals. The reg shop is working

on regs, but you guys have been around long 1 enough, you know we can't talk about regs that 2 are in process, other than what's on the list of 3 regulations. You're aware that we've published 4 5 24 NVICs for STCW, which shouldn't impact a lot 6 of you all. 7 We also have published NVIC 03-16, which did impact all of you all, and then RFPEW, 8 9 which, again, is an STCW NVIC that changed. We 10 are looking at doing more changes to the STCW 11 NVICs. I'm not going to talk about that. We're 12 also going to be working on a policy letter for Tankerman PIC for towing vessels. We're also 13 working on revising the guidelines on medical 14 evaluations for mariners. If you have questions 15 16 on any matters, you can go to either one of those 17 email addresses. The MMC policy is just asking policy questions. That gets to a generalized 18 19 email mailbox, where anyone can pull it. The 20 STCWASK one is if you have questions on STCW Then if you have an application question, 21 NVICs. 22 a specific question about an individual's

application, that goes to the National Maritime Center. If you send it to us, if we smell that it's a specific application, we will ask you to contact the National Maritime Center because it's inappropriate for us to get involved too early in the process. Speaking of the process, we have the appeal process, which hasn't really changed. The only thing that has changed is final agency action. It's going to Mr. Lantz, instead of Captain Gifford. Additionally, now, instead of the appeals going through the National Maritime

13 Center -- in the past, as you'll recall, the 14 application went to the National Maritime Center, 15 reconsideration went to the National Maritime 16 Center, and then appeals would go to the National 17 Maritime Center, and they would package 18 everything up and send to headquarters. Now, the 19 20 process is the application goes to the National Maritime Center, the reconsideration goes to the 21 22 National Maritime Center, but the appeal comes

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directly to Coast Guard Headquarters, then we 1 notify National Maritime Center, who sends us the 2 3 information or makes sure the information is properly uploaded in the database, so we can pull 4 it down and look at it. 5 We've tried to improve the process, 6 and it actually has shown to save some time that 7 way. As you'll see, you'll see the numbers are 8 9 coming down. Unfortunately, when you have 10 medical appeals, medical appeals take longer 11 because we, at headquarters, allow the applicants 12 to go back and get additional medical information. 13 So invariably, the doctor at 14 headquarters holds the appeals a little bit 15 16 longer, although we're working on that, and we're 17 hoping with the new NVIC, that timeline will drive down some. So this basically gives you an 18 19 idea that approximately 30 to 40 percent of the 20 time, appeals are granted, which says that the rest of the time, they're either denied or other 21 22 actions are taken on appeals. If you ask me what

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1	other outcomes might be, it could be that we say
2	no, you're denied the credential you're seeking,
3	but you're approved for a different credential.
4	That's where we are. I know you guys had lots of
5	questions, so I made a short presentation.
6	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you, Mr.
7	Harden. I'm sure we have some questions. With
8	that, we'll recognize Mr. Guidry.
9	MEMBER GUIDRY: Brian Guidry, TSAC.
10	You briefly mentioned before NVIC you had put
11	away a good part of those found in the websites
12	you gave us, or can you discuss
13	MR. HARDEN: They're still in
14	development. We've promised when we were going
15	to get them done. Mr. Wells back there is
16	laughing at me because the timeline's being drawn
17	out a little bit because the policy development
18	process, not only do we work on developing it,
19	but then once we get to a certain point, then we
20	have to ask six or seven other offices to give us
21	input. At times, that means you get a couple
22	hundred comments on the NVIC, and then you're

trying to -- how do you make it work? Two of the 1 offices we give it to are lawyers, so that means 2 probably half the comments come from the lawyers. 3 4 Those are harder to resolve than standard 5 questions because they ask questions like should it be vessel or boat? It just takes a longer 6 7 time. We're in the process -- they're getting 8 close. They've been drafted there. They've been 9 in the review for a while. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any other questions 10 11 by members? Mr. Richmond. 12 MEMBER RICHMOND: Ray Richmond, TSAC. 13 You mentioned briefly NVIC 03-16. Can you clarify the grandfathering for what will now be 14 the firefighting requirement? 15 MR. HARDEN: Can I clarify? I thought 16 it was pretty clear in the NVIC. Now, we were 17 having a discussion back in the back there, and 18 it might not be as clear as I thought it was. 19 Basically, if you hold -- if you held master or 20 mate as of 2014, you don't have to get 21 22 firefighting.

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1	If you started towards mate by 2014,
2	then you as I recall, you don't have to get
3	firefighting, or if you were transitioning from
4	mate to master as of March 2014, you don't have
5	to do firefighting ever. That's a one-time only
6	training. That being said, I know there's some
7	disagreements because there are some people who
8	say you start towards master your first day on a
9	towboat. I respect the people who tell me that,
10	and I respectfully disagree that when I wrote the
11	regs back in 2001 and established apprentice
12	mate, apprentice mate is the gateway towards
13	mate, or is the gateway towards master towing
14	limit itself.
15	You don't start towards mate or master
16	until you get that apprentice mate. I know
17	there'll be people who disagree, and I respect
18	that. I would refer you to mmcpolicy@uscg.mil if
19	you want to send a question, if you want to send
20	another question on that go ahead.
21	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Vitt.
22	MEMBER VITT: I'm Mike Vitt, from
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1	TSAC. Mr. Harden, nice to see you again.
2	MR. HARDEN: Nice to see you.
3	MEMBER VITT: I've got a question
4	about the same NVIC, nothing to do with
5	firefighting. There are some errors in the TOAR
6	lineup for common elements, specifically Western
7	Rivers, high wind is, I think, missing. Is the
8	high wind requirement inland, but not in the
9	Western Rivers? Anyway, there's an issue there
10	with some of the TOARs presented. Is there some
11	way to fix that? I don't know how you can fix an
12	attachment.
13	MR. HARDEN: All you do is send us an
14	email, let us know what identify where you
15	think the errors are, and we'll put it on our
16	list of NVICs to fix. I will apologize. It does
17	take us time to get the changes done to the
18	NVICs. We don't have a lot of people on staff,
19	and we try to focus on appeals because those can
20	impact livelihood.
21	Right now, I have an individual who
22	his sole job is working on revising NVICs or

producing policy. It's getting tight enough 1 right now that I'm doing appeals. I'm drafting 2 3 appeals and drafting policy letters. If you identify it, send it to the MMC policy email 4 5 address, we'll take that information and start 6 working on it. 7 MEMBER VITT: It's pretty exact, once 8 I get in the sites. It's very obvious. 9 MR. HARDEN: Okay. No, I would 10 appreciate that. That's where -- it's just like 11 we said on all the NVICs we're putting out. Just 12 let us know where you see the errors, and we'll fix them as soon as we can. 13 (Simultaneous speaking.) 14 MEMBER VITT: Actually, Mr. Johansson 15 has the pinpoint, if you wish to look at it 16 17 later. MR. HARDEN: Okay. 18 19 MEMBER VITT: The second thing I ask is there were a number of approved courses that 20 are TOARs. G&H Towing has one. Bisso Towboat 21 22 has one. E.N. Bisso has another. They're listed

as approved courses. Recently, we went through 1 an additional approval process from MMC-2, I 2 3 believe it is. It came back approved, but the verbiage we had requested did not return at all. 4 We had asked for an extension of 5 6 route, which was apparently granted, at least 7 impliedly so. I'm really reluctant to send a mariner into an area that is done by implication. 8 9 The geographic boundaries should be specific on a 10 limited license. With that in mind, the letter 11 said basically ask the cognizant OCMI. In this instance, I know there's an OCMI at NMC. 12 Is it the OCMI at NMC? Is it the OCMI in Sector New 13 Orleans? They didn't identify that. 14 MR. HARDEN: That's where -- when it 15 comes to those local limited areas, those are 16 17 managed, as far as establishing what those local limited areas -- the cognizant, that's the local 18 19 OCMI who has to deal with that. The NMC, if you 20 look at the regulations, it talks about the NMC has the authorities of an OCMI. That's what it 21 22 says in the regulations.

It does not say the NMC is an OCMI. 1 It's language that only a lawyer could love. 2 I'm 3 not a lawyer. I don't like it at all because it leads to this area of confusion. In this case, 4 5 while they can -- they have the authority to issue the credentials, which used to be an OCMI 6 7 function, they still have to work with the local offices on these limited endorsements. 8 They will 9 work with the local sectors. 10 In this case, if they've kicked it 11 back and said you have to get it cleared through the local sector, it sounds like they're asking 12 you to go back to the sector and say can you 13 approve this area, and then get that coordinated 14 I respect the fact that you said you don't 15 back. want to send someone into something based on 16 17 implication. If you're getting back an approval that you don't agree with, that you think is 18 19 inconsistent with your application, then you need 20 to ask them to reconsider their decision and say we requested X, Y, and Z. Your approval gave us 21 22 X and Y. We believe you need to give us Z. You

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1	have to basically say please reconsider your
2	decision. That's what you need to do on this
3	case.
4	MEMBER VITT: I hear a two-pronged
5	answer. Get the local OCMI to approve the
6	verbiage?
7	MR. HARDEN: Approve the route.
8	MEMBER VITT: Okay, and then perhaps
9	simultaneously ask MMC-2 to reconsider the
10	wording of their approval
11	MR. HARDEN: Yes.
12	MEMBER VITT: to be a little bit
13	more clear. Right now, it's about as clear as
14	the firefighting one that we just talked about.
15	No, that's clearly not actually
16	MR. HARDEN: No, you need to actually
17	say you need them to reconsider their approval
18	to explain to be based on what you've
19	requested, as opposed to what they've granted.
20	They may come back and tell you we didn't grant
21	it. We gave you what you originally had, and
22	we're not granting anything additional until such
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time as you give us the additional information. 1 That could be what their letter meant. I'm just 2 3 guessing. MEMBER VITT: I understand. You 4 5 haven't seen the document, so I recognize that. We added some tasks related to locking. 6 My 7 request had something to do with locking in order to get into a geographical area. I don't know 8 9 what the answer is. I'll clarify it both ways. 10 Presumably, it'll be faster than the, what, seven 11 or eight months it took to approve a TOAR that was previously approved? 12 13 MR. HARDEN: I would hope so. MEMBER VITT: Thank you. 14 It's not your fault, I realize. Thank you. 15 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Caliendo. 16 17 MEMBER CALIENDO: Mike Caliendo with TSAC. It's good to see you, Luke. 18 19 MR. HARDEN: Good to see you. 20 MEMBER CALIENDO: I would like to see you at more meetings. My question is based on 21 22 what I've heard from the Coast Guard at some

previous meetings and some of the recent policy 1 letters that have been issued by the Coast Guard, 2 3 it seems to me that the Coast Guard is beginning to consider ATBs as a unit, as opposed to two 4 5 separate vessels, for a variety of reasons, which 6 may or may not make sense. However, do you see 7 where the combined tonnage of those units is ever going to be recognized for qualifying service in 8 9 a way that benefits the mariners? 10 MR. HARDEN: Yes, in part. 11 MEMBER CALIENDO: Please explain. MR. HARDEN: I'm not a lawyer, and I 12 didn't stay at a Choice Hotel or whichever one it 13 is -- Comfort Inn, that's it. However -- Holiday 14 Inn, okay. We are counting time on ATBs. As you 15 16 look at the service time on ATBs, there are 17 various places in the regulations where we grant some time towards the full unlimited tonnage, but 18 19 only a portion of it. I think up to 50 percent of the total 20 time will be counted. Then it's also dependent 21 22 upon what you're seeking. In some cases, it's a

two for one credit; in some cases it could be one 1 There's a lot of variables. You have 2 for one. 3 to look at the specific site to see how we're applying it. We're working that way, but until 4 such time -- as you'll recall, ITBs were the only 5 6 combinations where we gave total credit, and that 7 was because the ITBs were outfitted and manned comparable to a comparable conventional vessel. 8 9 Because of that, they got full credit. Since 10 there's two ITBs in the United States, those are 11 the only two that get one-for-one credit for all the time. Did that answer your question, Mike? 12 MEMBER CALIENDO: I think so. 13 We haven't seen anything but basically a flat denial 14 of credit for qualifying service on the combined 15 tonnage of the ATBs for the mariners who work for 16 17 us. MR. HARDEN: Complete denial of it? 18 19 MEMBER CALIENDO: That's what we've 20 seen on replies from the Coast Guard. MR. HARDEN: Ask for reconsideration. 21 22 Look at 11-217, I think it is, 211 is the reg

site that talks about the sea service that 1 addresses the ATB time. 2 3 MEMBER CALIENDO: Okay, thank you. MR. HARDEN: 10-232 also has some of 4 5 that language. 6 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any further 7 questions for Mr. Harden from TSAC members? I'm 8 going to say -- I have one -- okay, Mr. Lagarde, 9 you're recognized. 10 MEMBER LAGARDE: Matt Lagarde with 11 Two things, in particular, that I wanted TSAC. to address, the difference in description of 12 route with credentials versus the description of 13 route elsewhere in regulations is a recurring 14 problem with almost everything we deal with. 15 16 Whereas, we talk about Near Coastal, 17 Inland, and Wester Rivers in one context, and we talk about lakes, bays, and sounds, oceans, coast 18 19 wise in other regulations. In particular, there seems to be some breakdown in the definition of 20 Western Rivers between the licensing regs and 21 22 Subchapter M regulations, where the Western

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1	Rivers include the Gulf Intracoastal Waterways.
2	As a mariner, as a company
3	representative, as a TSAC member, I'd like to see
4	the Coast Guard get everything let's find a
5	definition for stuff that we can apply across. I
6	know it's a regulatory issue, but I just want you
7	guys to be aware of it.
8	MR. HARDEN: In regard to the
9	definition of Western Rivers, that one's
10	something I would have to ask the drafters of
11	Subchapter M. I would think we would use the
12	same definition.
13	MEMBER LAGARDE: No, which brings us
14	to a problem. The equipment is certified to run
15	on a Western River, but the licensing is not.
16	Another thing in Subchapter M that came up, too,
17	was the local OCMI ability to designate waterways
18	within an area.
19	We have an area in New Orleans, the
20	Harvey Canal and Algiers Canals, in particular,
21	that are inland waterways for the purpose of
22	definition under waterways, but in reality, they
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meet the criteria for a Western River. 1 Subchapter M gives the local OCMI the authority 2 to designate those waterways. The question is 3 4 from a credentialing standpoint, how does that play out? Can a Western Rivers mariner operate 5 on that portion of inland waterway if the local 6 7 OCMI designates it as such? MR. HARDEN: At this time, I would not 8 9 like to answer that just because I don't have --I would want to do some research before I 10 11 answered that. On face value, I would say if you 12 have a Western Rivers and you're operating on 13 Great Lakes Inland area, in an area that's considered Great Lakes and Inland, then I would 14 say if I were an IO, I would probably at least 15 start investigating. Whether I would cite that 16 operator or not, I don't know. I haven't been an 17 IO since the '80s. I would think you should have 18 a credential for the route you're on. 19 The only area that's really -- there's 20 21 exceptions to the rules are in the pilotage 22 waters of the lower Mississippi River. Then D-9

has some up in the rivers going into the Great 1 Lakes. There's some exceptions to the rules up 2 there. 3 4 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, now it's time 5 for the chairman's question. I have two, and that's a perfect dovetail off of Mr. Lagarde's. 6 7 There is a continuing problem with identifying the Gulf of Mexico as a water that is creditable 8 9 for sea service as either ocean or coastwise service once you depart the jetties. 10 Operating inside, shoreward of the 11 12 boundary line, where our mariners get letters 13 that basically say you're operating outside of the scope of your license with the Great Lakes 14 and Inland route because you're on what would be 15 considered coastwise service for the purposes of 16 license time. There was a Policy Letter 12-01 17 many years ago that dealt with credit for the 18 Gulf of Mexico for ocean or coastwise service. 19 Α 20 mariner may be credentialed with an inland 21 license, operate anywhere between Brownsville and 22 Key West, Florida, which, in many other people's

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1	eyes, would be considered a coastwise type
2	voyage, but for the legal purposes of
3	credentialing, they are on an inland license.
4	We routinely, when we submit sea
5	service letters, get that the mariner was
6	operating outside the scope of their license when
7	operating on inland waters which are also
8	creditable for sea service purposes for Near
9	Coastal or oceans. How do we resolve that
10	problem with the understanding of service on
11	those routes?
12	MR. HARDEN: Send me a copy of the
13	letter you get. Send me the copy of the sea
14	service letter you send them. Because it all
15	comes down to what's the definition of inland
16	waters. As most people know, the inland waters
17	for the Gulf of Mexico extend out 12 miles,
18	except off of certain portions of Florida, where
19	it can be as much as 25 miles. New England has
20	some of the same situations, where there's
21	waterways that the inland waters extend out past
22	what would be traditionally considered the

boundary line. So unless people know that, then 1 it's likely the evaluators reviewing the service 2 3 may pick it up and say this looks like they're operating beyond the boundary line. 4 5 Just let me know when you run into those problems. I'll coordinate with my 6 7 counterparts at the National Maritime Center and say -- they'll do training. They do a lot of 8 9 training to make sure their evaluators understand 10 things. This may be one where they've just 11 missed it. 12 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: In this case, it's inverse. It's services inside of the boundary 13 line, which means we're in inland waters, but by 14 policy, the Coast Guard has said that water 15 operates like a Near Coastal route, so we want to 16 17 give you credit, if you operate in that area, for some coastwise type service. 18 19 It complicates the issue of service 20 time for completing the tour for Near Coastal oceans tours or vice versa. If a mariner can't 21 22 get credit out there, you're not able to move

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1	that process along (Simultaneous speaking).
2	MR. HARDEN: So you're looking to get
3	credit, also, for the Near Coastal, as well?
4	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: As the policy
5	letter has since 12-01 has been out
6	authorizing that.
7	MR. HARDEN: Send me an email on
8	mmcpolicy@uscg.mil.
9	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: mmcpolicy letter.
10	MR. HARDEN: Who signed the policy
11	letter?
12	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Ernie.
13	MR. HARDEN: Okay.
14	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Yes, were outside
15	the scope. My second question I have a
16	two-pronged question. There's a couple
17	two-pronged questions. The new NVIC 03-16
18	regarding the TOAR lists a number of new items
19	that may restrict mariner service or a restricted
20	ability to serve if they don't complete the
21	entire TOAR, they will have a restriction on
22	their license.

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But in many cases, a mariner need not,
according to the existing law, turn in a TOAR,
and they maybe carry that with creditable sea
service. We're now forcing companies to be,
basically, TOAR examiners. You have to go
through and say this mariner is qualified on an
inland water, but may not do downstreaming
operations, or may not push a barge ahead. It
seems as though we're continuing to complicate
the issue associated with the licensing and
manning of towing vessel officers by adding new
tasks to the TOAR, which now will result in
restrictions to mariners' ability to operate.
There are numerous areas that are
inland waters, where there are no downstreaming
operations undertaken, Galveston Bay, etc.,
except where you're not conducting downstreaming,
which would be traditionally recognized under
Subchapter M or on the Western Rivers.
Now, a mariner will get a restricted
license because he didn't do a downstreaming
operation, and he's been operating in those

waters for an entire career. Now we'll say you 1 can't operate in a downstreaming environment, or 2 you can't go through a lock. What's our method 3 4 to go back to this TOAR again? Is this a task 5 that TSAC should comment back on to the Coast Guard, in terms of those issues relating to 6 7 service on towing vessel operators? 8 MR. HARDEN: Yes, subject to the DFO 9 and ADFO. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: That's why I put it 10 on the record for you. 11 12 MR. HARDEN: And the sponsor. 13 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Now that we are done with member questions, unless that spurred 14 any new questions, we'll ask if there are any 15 questions from the public for Mr. Harden while we 16 have him here? Mr. McWhorter. 17 MR. MCWHORTER: Tom McWhorter, 18 Maritime Services Group. Luke, great to have you 19 20 here to publicly give us answers to questions that a lot of us -- like the firefighting that 21 22 Ray had asked, that mariners prior to 2014 know

never have to take firefighting. They're exempted. There still is a question that needs to be clarified.

That is the issue with sea service, and I know you alluded to it. One, understanding what our sea service is. I want to go back to NVIC 02-14, which is STCW transit. I'm not an STCW, at all, expert. You probably are, and many in the room. Giving grandfathering privileges in that NVIC basically stated service or training, if you had that before 2014, qualified for grandfathering. What you stated in NVIC 03-16, it actually states service -- basically training. You stated that didn't start until -- in your opinion, until you received your apprentice mate. However, when I send in for my apprentice mate, Coast Guard's going to ask me I need your 18 months of service time to qualify for apprentice mate because that was your training time.

Then when I send in for my pilot's license, which is usually after a year, and the records have already transferred out of the NMC,

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I can't just say I've got 12 months of time as 1 apprentice mate. Coast Guard asks no, I need all 2 3 your training time, even back when you was a deckhand, or we'll have to go pull your legacy 4 5 file to make sure you have that training time. I would strongly ask Coast Guard to 6 7 reconsider what is training time? When mariners join one of these companies, they do not join as 8 9 I want to be a lifetime deckhand. My goal is to 10 go in the wheelhouse. When that training time 11 starts is Day 1 of deckhand service time. There 12 are some lifetime deckhand mates and tankermen that choose, but the folks that are going in the 13 wheelhouse are -- to get that pilot or master's 14 license, they've got to have that 18 months of 15 16 training sea service to get their apprentice 17 mates. I would strongly urge you or Coast Guard to re-look at how you interpret when did that 18 19 training start. Because it started when I 20 started as a deckhand, not when I started as apprentice mate. 21 22 There are many companies that hire

these folks, they have them up in the wheelhouse, 1 training, just to see does this individual have 2 3 those qualities before I send him to apprentice, which is totally legal. It's still on my 4 5 license, as a master. I'm training him or her 6 before I get their apprentice mate's license, so strongly urge Coast Guard to reconsider how they 7 look at when training started. 8 To my 9 understanding, it did for STCW mariners. I don't 10 know why we didn't do that for inland route water 11 river. Tom, I appreciate the 12 MR. HARDEN: comment there. I would say that we are looking 13 at it -- the interpretation for when training 14 starts towards the next credential is interpreted 15 16 the same way, whether it's for STCW or on the 17 towing side. We do start the same way because the gate is -- now your concern about where they 18 19 ask you show me you've done the 18 months to get 20 to apprentice mate, once you hold apprentice mate, all you should be showing for mate is I've 21 22 done my 12 months as an apprentice mate.

I can see you're shaking your head, 1 which tells me that's not what's happening. 2 What I'm saying is that apprentice mate starts the 3 4 time -- once you hold the apprentice mate, that's 5 what starts your time towards the next credential. 6 7 MR. MCWHORTER: Just one more comment. 8 I guess that's how Coast Guard looks at it. That 9 apprentice mate actually starts the time that I can claim. It didn't start my training time. 10 11 Some of these other operators may want to chime 12 in here. Again, I understand what you 13 interpreted, but how the industry works is training started before I got the apprentice 14 15 mate. MR. HARDEN: I understand that. 16 Tt's just like for cadet at a maritime academy. Their 17 time as cadet goes toward their third mate or 18 19 third assistant engineer. Their time towards their next level doesn't start until they hold 20 that credential as an officer. It's the same --21 22 we look at it the same way, that it's the same

sort of evaluation, even though at the maritime 1 academy, they may have already done some of their 2 management-level training, we still -- they don't 3 4 start the time towards management until they hold 5 that credential. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any further 6 7 questions from the general public? 8 MR. BISH: A question and a statement. 9 In regard to the 50 percent time allowed for ATBs, I was in at a meeting about a year ago, we 10 11 had someone from NMC at the meeting. We talked 12 about the 50 percent time allowed for ATB. Ι 13 understand this is a double-edged sword, and we 14 tread lightly when we go to that area. The statement was made that the ATB 15 16 time is only 50 percent because ATBs only operate as ATBs 50 percent of the time. I said, "Where 17 do you get that?" She said, "This is what we've 18 deduced from what we see happening in the 19 20 industry." I wasn't the only person that spoke 21 I said, "That's not true." ATBs operate as up. 22 ATBs probably 90-95 percent of the time. It's

just a very short time that they're not made up 1 to the notch. My question is there seems to be a 2 disconnect in the Coast Guard about what is 3 4 actually taking place in industry with ATBs. 5 Maybe that license time should be re-evaluated and looked at again. 6 7 Because we are denying people who have 8 deep sea licenses from maintaining their licenses 9 on vessels of the appropriate tonnage. Again, I understand it's a double-edged sword, but there 10 11 does seem to be a disconnect within the Coast 12 Guard, itself, about what ATBs do and how long 13 they do it for as an ATB. MR. HARDEN: Not having known who 14 15 spoke to you, nor --16 MR. BISH: I can get the name, but it was about a year ago. 17 MR. HARDEN: Nevertheless, we 18 19 recognize the fact that most ATBs are operating 20 primarily as ATBs. They rarely operate as a standalone tug. We understand that. The reason 21 22 we give a different evaluation is because an ATB

is not a conventional vessel. Because it's not a 1 conventional vessel, we are only giving partial 2 credit for the service on an ATB. They're not 3 4 manned like a conventional vessel, nor do they 5 operate completely like a conventional vessel, nor do they have all the equipment of a 6 7 conventional vessel. That's why we give a 8 partial credit. I understand there'll be some 9 disagreement there, but that's how we've come up with the time on that. We can revisit it. 10 11 MR. BISH: I think you need to revisit 12 because I think many ATBs are equipped as ships. 13 In fact, some have more than ships have on them. The hours are different than a ship, obviously. 14 The level, the quality of the manning is 15 substantially higher than what it used to be, 16 say, even 15 years ago. It is an issue that 17 needs to be revisited because we do carry the 18 freight. We move that tonnage. Again, 19 understanding it's a double-edged sword. I think 20 it needs to be revisited. 21 22 MR. HARDEN: But as far as renewal

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1	time, if you get 12 months on an ATB, that's 12
2	months towards renewal. You can renew the
3	credential based on your service time, and the
4	service time is 12 months.
5	MR. BISH: But if it only counts 50
6	percent towards an unlimited license
7	MR. HARDEN: You're right, but as far
8	as renewal of that unlimited license, you can
9	renew your unlimited license by showing 12
10	months' service time. Now, you can't the
11	upgrade becomes (Simultaneous speaking).
12	MR. BISH: I understand.
13	MR. HARDEN: obtaining the original
14	credential (Simultaneous speaking).
15	MR. BISH: I think there's lack of
16	understanding in the industry, then, about the
17	renewal process. Either NMC's not crediting it
18	correctly for the renewal process, or there needs
19	to be maybe there needs to be some additional
20	guidance. I don't think the individuals
21	understand that.
22	MR. HARDEN: If you can show me the

circumstances, that would be helpful because it 1 only takes being able to identify it to the 2 3 people responsible, and they change their training and make sure their people understand. 4 The second one's about the 5 MR. BISH: 6 TOAR. At one time, we had a separate ATB TOAR that was approved by the Coast Guard. 7 It eliminated some of the towing functions, and the 8 9 license they issued was limited to ATB TOARs 10 only, the master towing vessel or major towing 11 vessel. Now that you've come out with a TOAR, in 12 that language in the TOAR, it says Coast Guard will evaluate the TOAR and act accordingly and 13 issue the credential accordingly. Do we need to 14 put a preamble or some sort of statement when we 15 submit that TOAR to the Coast Guard that this is 16 17 for operations under ATB only, or will you deduce that from the lack of qualifications based on 18 19 simple towing on the competencies? 20 MR. HARDEN: It would probably be helpful if you said this is for ATB only. 21 The

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evaluators at the National Maritime Center,

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1	they're looking at a lot of different types of
2	vessels, so they
3	MR. BISH: Okay, thank you.
4	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you, Mr.
5	Harden. Any further questions? Ms. Taft.
6	MEMBER TAFT: I started working with
7	you on MEDMAC. Jill Taft, Kirby Inland Marine.
8	I have a question on towing vessel regulations in
9	Subchapter M under manning, 15.535 has to do with
10	towing and recency, acting as pilot on the lower
11	Mississippi River. The paragraph in question,
12	moving tank or hazardous material barges, to
13	operate a towing vessel with tank barges, blah,
14	blah, blah, Subchapter N or O, "The officer in
15	charge of the towing vessel must have completed
16	at least 12 round trips over this route as
17	observer, with at least three of those trips
18	during hours of darkness. Must provide evidence
19	to the Coast Guard upon request that at least one
20	of these 12 round trips occurred within the last
21	five years."
22	My question is for all of those
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mariners who have been traveling this route for 1 30 years, do we have to now go back and show that 2 3 they were an observer over the last five years? They've been traversing this route as a 4 credentialed mariner with trips and 5 familiarization trips accrued probably over the 6 last 20 years, certainly long before, probably, a 7 lot of our companies' electronic recordkeeping 8 9 helped to track who was when, where, over what 10 route. The question arises how does one satisfy 11 that, if that's called into question, for 12 long-term mariners on those routes? MR. HARDEN: For the historic -- that 13 14 one, I'll ask you to -- ask to send me -- ask TSAC to send it to me because I can see how that 15 16 could be a problem for the individuals who've 17 been operating in the area. Because there, you would say that the alternative is that all they 18 19 have to show is the round trip -- the one round 20 trip in the last five years, I would think. It's one of those that I'd want to have a better 21 22 opportunity to look at and talk to my

counterparts in the reg drafting side of the 1 2 house. 3 MEMBER TAFT: Okay, thank you. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, no further 4 5 questions for Mr. Harden. I want to thank you 6 very much. Oh, we have one more. We've got to 7 redirect. Tom, I'm going to have to call you on this at the end of this on your two minutes. 8 9 MR. MCWHORTER: Tom McWhorter, 10 Maritime Services Group. Luke, you had mentioned 11 the PIC fueling you guys are working on. Can you share with us what the vision today is of what 12 the Coast Guard's looking at from the letter of 13 designation to -- is that system -- is there any 14 way to keep that type of system? I've heard all 15 kind of different aspects of the Coast Guard's 16 17 thinking is the easy fix is to make an MMC with towing vessel or fueling. That's not the easy 18 19 fix. That still creates a huge problem, as it 20 was brought out that you're talking about tens of thousands of mariners that will require a TWIC 21 22 on, plus this credential, and possibly even more

1	than that, huge demand on NMC, huge issue in the
2	brown water industry on folks that don't even
3	that are not required to have an MMC today. I
4	don't know if you can talk of where you are and
5	what the look at that looks like right now.
6	MR. HARDEN: As I'm sure they told you
7	yesterday, we're working on a policy on this.
8	Once we get the policy we're dancing between
9	the two committees that have some jurisdiction on
10	this. We're dancing between the Towing Safety
11	Advisory Committee and the Merchant Marine
12	Personnel Advisory Committee. Those are the two
13	committees who have some purview of this item.
14	We're working at drafting a policy
15	letter. It'll be probably presented as a task
16	for review and comment at your next committee, or
17	your next meeting. I said probably because as
18	Rich will tell you, I'm an optimist about getting
19	the job done. Unfortunately, the process is
20	pessimistic. As far as the easy way to get it
21	done, it's regulatory right now. There is
22	nothing easy with the regulations. If we're

going to change the regulations, we have to go 1 through a regulatory process to change the 2 3 regulations. As you're aware, some regulatory rules take a long time to get done. I was just 4 5 looking back at the fact that the Tankerman PIC rule took 15 years to get done, if any of you are 6 7 old enough to remember that rulemaking from start Subchapter M took eight years? 8 to finish. 9 PARTICIPANT: Twelve. 10 MR. HARDEN: Twelve, okay. My rule, 11 the towing rule, seemed like it went light years, and it took a decade. I don't think there's any 12 13 quick fix if we're going the regulatory pathway. We're looking at developing policy. We're 14 looking at identifying grandfathering processes, 15 16 but that's -- we're looking at how do we proceed 17 with this. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: All right. Thank 18 19 you, Mr. Harden. I appreciate you running the 20 gauntlet here today, taking the questions for some of our TSAC members, and there was some 21

discussion on the ATBs. I point you to Paragraph

3 of your ATB task statement. Questions about 1 service and other things associated with ATBs 2 3 could easily be appended to your task that says, "And any other things that the subcommittee 4 wishes to put forward." Some of the issues 5 6 raised today regarding ATBs, that may be an opportunity for you to just tag that along, where 7 we don't need any special tasking from the Coast 8 9 Guard, in order to provide comments back to the 10 Coast Guard on those particular issues. 11 Thanks again, Luke. We do appreciate your coming to join us. At this point, we have 12 Mr. Vitt to give us the first report, Report No. 13 1, on the recommendations for the implementation 14 of 46 Code of Federal Regulations Subchapter M, 15 Inspection of Towing Vessels, Task No. 16-01. 16 17 RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 46 CODE OF REGULATIONS SUBCHAPTER M-INSPECTION OF TOWING 18 19 VESSELS (TASK NO. 16-01) 20 MEMBER VITT: Good afternoon. I'm Mike Vitt, one of the members of TSAC. 21 I was 22 asked to be chairman of the TSAC subcommittee

relating to the implementation of Subchapter M. 1 This is the first report. There will probably be 2 I'm certain Mr. Harden identified at least 3 many. There are some questions that could be two. 4 5 answered in relation to those -- excuse me, there 6 might be some answers in relation to some of 7 those questions we heard. The first part of the task -- the first topic for the determination was 8 9 the review of the Marine Safety Manual, Volume 10 III, Change 1. They were looking to make a 11 Change 2 and ask for some comment, in addition to the docket that was prepared for comment, as 12 well. 13 We, as a subcommittee, were helped 14 greatly by the American Waterways Operators, who 15 hosted a conference call on August 23rd. 16 There 17 were 46 people on the conference call. Not everyone identified themselves. Then yesterday, 18 19 there was good participation and comment. Ι think a lot of this was discussed yesterday. I 20 don't know how much you'd like to hear again. 21 22 I'm going to go right to the

recommendations of the subcommittee. There were some specific items identified as disconnects in the Marine Safety Manual. We collected those. I'll move right to the recommendations. This is the first set of recommendations that related to the Marine Safety Manual. We are asking confirmation that able seamen are not required on towing vessels that are at measured below 100 gross registered tons. We are also asking specifically -- in the MSM, there are some paragraphs and tables that have apparent disconnects. We've identified them. It relates both to able seamen on towing vessels, it also relates to licensed engineers. They were well identified in the AWO submission, and we would like to incorporate by reference that AWO letter of September 13th as an enclosure to this report. No. 3 relates to almost the same regulation that Ms. Taft was talking about. On the lower Mississippi River, there is a designation as pilotage water. One of the problems with that is there's no definition found

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anywhere of what constitutes pilotage waters. 1 There have been a number of problems related to 2 3 meriting not only the record keeping portion that Ms. Taft identified, but also for what actually 4 5 constitutes pilotage waters. 6 The Federal Register cites in that regulation do not give you the answer. Going 7 back further, we found the source of that 8 9 particular language. I asked that to be 10 identified in the Marine Safety Manual, so that 11 the OCMIs or IOs that have a question about service on that route know exactly what the 12 boundaries are. I did identify the source. 13 It's in the body of the report. We have a 14 considerable difficulty with the terms that are 15 16 used in Subchapter M, the terms that are used in 17 Subchapter B, related to the licensing, and some difficulty with Subchapter N, in terms of 18 19 lifesaving. 20 The route structure do not conform well. You can be coastwise for purposes of 21

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stability. You can be coastwise for purposes of

lifesaving equipment. But as spoken to earlier, there are places where you're literally running inland waters. That creates confusion for the mariner, not just for the NMC. I could see a mariner saying wait a minute, I can't do this because I can't go out beyond the seaboard, for example.

We asked that some conformance, to the 8 9 extent possible, be promulgated. If not, then at least some cross-reference matrix be put in the 10 11 Marine Safety Manual so it's an easy place to 12 find that this term, coastwise, means this for 13 this purpose, and that means something else for a different purpose. That's been identified in 14 just about every task we've talked about. No. 5, 15 we asked that the Coast Guard consider adding a 16 new NVIC or publishing a policy letter to 17 describe how automation will apply to towing 18 vessels. What's in the Marine Safety Manual now 19 20 is somewhat lightweight, in that it refers back to an old OSV NVIC dating back to 1978, and one 21 22 that relates to ships.

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1	There's some difficulty with figuring
2	out how much automation do you need to reduce
3	manning? It's sort of left in the purview of the
4	OCMI that's issuing the certificate of
5	inspection. The problem with that is that
6	there's so many different types of towing vessels
7	and so many levels of automation. But even so,
8	there could be a minimum standard, such as the
9	listing in Subchapter M, for example, of the
10	required monitoring and alarm.
11	At least that would provide a uniform
12	application across the United States. If you
13	have these things, you only need you don't
14	need an engineer if you're below 4,000 horsepower
15	or sailing on this particular route or whatever
16	the issue might be. It would also provide the
17	companies a place of argument, that you could
18	refer to a particular source that's out in the
19	public domain, "Wait a minute, Mr. Inspector,
20	you're wrong," or, "Ms. Inspector, you're wrong.
21	It's here in the Marine Safety Manual that if I
22	have XYZ, my manning can be this particular

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1	level." There are additional disparities with
2	the COI and routes on a mariner's MMC. That
3	relates back to the coastwise, limited coastwise
4	routes that would be on a COI.
5	I can expect for a couple of years or
6	more afterward, there'd be some difficulty with
7	enforcement of routes and licensing, so we ask
8	that there's a reference at hand for that, which
9	relates back to No. 4. Then last thing that we
10	talked about for the Marine Safety Manual is that
11	it be announced when it's promulgated, so the
12	changes are noticeably in the public domain, as
13	opposed to being changed and, if you can find it,
14	good luck to you.
15	The Coast Guard's pretty good about
16	putting stuff on the web. We applaud that, but I
17	think the outreach needs to be further. The most
18	significant import of this report related to the
19	person in charge of fuel transfers on towing
20	vessels. We asked that Coast Guard refer back to
21	the TSAC work that was done as far back as 1998
22	that created the letter of designation for

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under-inspected towing vessels. Some of the 1 thought that went into that process should assist 2 in promulgating a new policy. It would help to 3 4 look back to see the historical reasons of why it 5 was necessary. We need to continue to examine that issue. 6 7 You heard Mr. Harden saying policy was 8 being generated. That's what we're referring to, 9 that that continue and that the public continue their discourse with the Coast Guard. Then we 10 need -- the policy guidance, itself, has got to 11 12 be clear enough that it's understood across the 13 board by all segments of the towing vessel industry. 14 There's some difficulties as it 15 relates to towing vessels that do not handle red 16 flags, for example. A Western Rivers towboat 17 that only handles barges full of sand, the only 18 people required to have an MMC would be the 19 20 master and the pilot. That's a problem if that 21 unlicensed engineer were the person in charge by 22 letter of designation, but didn't hold the TWIC,

because that's not required either, and certainly 1 doesn't hold an MMC. What do you do about that 2 population? In the preamble of Sub M, it had a 3 4 fairly limited number of mariners that would be 5 affected by this. As it turns out Ms. Warder said tens of thousands. I'm not sure about that, 6 7 but I know it's somewhere between 3,000 to at least 4,500, maybe 5,000, minimum. 8 I'm sure 9 there are more. It's a big population. If there were a demand for issuance of 10 11 MMCs, it would be a burden on the National 12 Maritime Center. That, Mr. Chairman, is the sum 13 of the report and the recommendations that were made by the subcommittee. We certainly thank the 14 public for their input, and AWO and AMSA for 15 their input, and ask if there's any questions now 16 about this report? 17 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you, Mr. 18 Vitt. With that, I would ask if there any 19 20 members of the TSAC committee who have any 21 questions for Mr. Vitt regarding the 22 subcommittee's Report No. 1?

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1	MEMBER MYSKOWSKI: Yes, Chris
2	Myskowski with TSAC. Just a comment. Hearing
3	the possible work around being this issuing
4	credentials, it just seems like foolishness
5	because of how difficult it is to get this small
6	change in the regulations that everybody agrees
7	on. It's unbelievable to me that we're going to
8	consider this huge program of merchant mariner
9	credentialing and all the costs and paperwork and
10	administratium that is going to be involved in it
11	for something that everybody agrees needs to be
12	done. Surely, there is another way.
13	I just encourage the Coast Guard to
14	look for that. I don't know if there's an
15	equivalency or some way to write a policy where
16	the master or pilot can be represented, but yet
17	not be the one that has to be doing the fuel
18	transfer, but surely, there's got to be a better
19	way than this giant merchant mariner
20	credentialing program, while we wait for a
21	regulation a correction to a regulation to
22	happen. Thank you.

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1	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you. Any
2	other questions? We are fortunate, today, in
3	that our executive sponsor is also a member of
4	the TOPOCO, so he likes to use his acronyms. For
5	those of you we're not supposed to use
6	acronyms. I think it's the Towing Policy Council
7	within Coast Guard headquarters. He's asked for
8	a moment to speak to us on this issue. With
9	that, I'm going to turn it over to Captain Kelly.
10	CAPT. KELLY: Yes, this is Captain
11	Kelly. Good afternoon, again, everybody. The
12	sad irony of that acronym is you all weren't
13	supposed to hear it ever, at all, ever, ever,
14	ever, ever. Anyway, nonetheless, yes, I am part
15	of it. I actually had a question. I know we
16	just gave it to you this week, but I wanted to
17	know if you all had had a chance to look at the
18	TPO guidebook and had any comments you were
19	willing to offer at all?
20	MEMBER VITT: I have a suggestion.
21	The TPO guidebook is of great importance to more
22	than the members of this committee. I'd ask that

the chairman consider assigning that as a tasking 1 to the subcommittee that currently exists to 2 3 handle such questions, so that we can get some public debate and comment about that. I think we 4 5 can fast track that and get that information to 6 you as a Report No. 2. 7 CAPT. KELLY: May I motion yes? Probably a FACA rule violation there, but I agree 8 9 with that. 10 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We will take a floor action. 11 CAPT. KELLY: Yes, I would call out, 12 in the original task statement, it does say that 13 we were going to provide additional reports to 14 you all. On that note, I'll just pick it up for 15 16 all of you. What we intended to provide was the 17 TPO guidebook earlier. Because of the way the process works, 18 19 we just delivered it to you. What we also intend 20 to do, if you look at the task statement, it does mention that there's other reports. 21 They're 22 going to be the other enclosures in the NVIC.

There are a couple things, when you look at the TPO guidebook, you'll notice that there's a couple of key compliance questions that have been asked by you all that are in that pile of questions that Captain Gifford referred to earlier. We have put those questions to the compliance quidebook. What the current plan is, in this dynamic, is you have a TPO guidebook first, which is an effort to get the TSMS system running as quickly as possible, so we put it out to start the framework, and it's dynamic. We plan to update it as we need to, based on your feedback through the NCOE -- Jacie's here. The next guidebook that you should see is something we're calling a TSMS compliance guidebook, which is going to answer some of the questions we've received about TSMS, itself, how it would work. The third document that we need to deliver, I'm not sure if that's going to go to the public, but we need to deliver a document to

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our own marine inspectors about how they're going

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to deal with vessels that are in the TSMS option 1 for towing vessels. That is the current plan. 2 We would, of course, appreciate -- if you look at 3 4 the implementation schedule that we've set forth, 5 we're all challenged to work quickly together, get your feedback on the TPO guidebook, working 6 7 within the rules of the FACA. Whether we have an interim of dialogue 8 9 or not, that would be probably helpful. Then just to let you know ahead of time that literally 10 11 next week, now that TSAC is done, we're getting 12 right to work on reforming with the NCOE. We 13 have an internal group of people that get together once in a while. We'll be looking at 14 the TSMS compliance guidebook next, to put that 15 out as quickly as possible, as well. What the 16 FACA allows us to do is to give it to you, and 17 then we'll also, simultaneously -- it's delivered 18 to you as part of a task statement, so it's put 19 20 on Homeport, as well, for folks to see. We would 21 ask that you accommodate people's questions as 22 they feed them through to the FACA.

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1	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you, Captain
2	Kelly. With that, any questions from the general
3	public for Mr. Vitt regarding Report No. 1 from
4	the Subchapter M implementation subcommittee?
5	Hearing none, at this point, Mr. Vitt, that
6	report, as I understand it, is ready for
7	MEMBER VITT: Prime time.
8	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: presentation and
9	acceptance by the full committee. I would
10	entertain a motion from a committee member to
11	accept the report, as drafted.
12	MEMBER TAFT: So moved.
13	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We have a motion by
14	Ms. Taft. I'm looking for a second.
15	MEMBER RICHMOND: Second.
16	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We have a second
17	from Mr. Ray Richmond. Is there any further
18	discussion on accepting Report No. 1 for
19	forwarding to the Coast Guard from Subchapter M
20	implementation, Task No. 16-01? Hearing no
21	further discussion, I will call for a vote on the
22	motion. At this time, all those in favor, say

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1	aye.
2	(Chorus of ayes.)
3	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: All those opposed,
4	say nay.
5	(No audible response.)
6	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Hearing none
7	opposed, are there any abstentions?
8	MEMBER VITT: There are. I abstain.
9	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Vitt recognizes
10	an abstention. Therefore, the motion carries,
11	and we will prepare the final transmittal letter
12	to send the first report of the Subchapter M
13	implementation team. As Captain Kelly mentioned,
14	and per our guidance from Task No. 16-01, we have
15	been presented with the TPO guidebook.
16	Mr. Vitt, moving forward, that's a new
17	task for your subcommittee to provide guidance
18	back to the Coast Guard expediently as we can do.
19	At this point, thank you, Mr. Vitt, for your hard
20	work and continued effort on that task. We will
21	now hear a report from the subcommittee
22	concerning recommendations regarding firefighting
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training requirements for officer endorsements 1 for master or mate pilot of towing vessels, 2 3 except apprentice mate steersmen of towing vessels in inland service, Task No. 16-02. Our 4 5 subcommittee chair is Mr. Mike Rushing. RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING FIREFIGHTING TRAINING 6 7 REQUIREMENTS FOR OFFICER ENDORSEMENTS FOR MASTER OR MATE (PILOT) OF TOWING VESSELS, EXCEPT 8 9 APPRENTICE MATE (STEERSMAN) OF TOWING VESSELS 10 IN INLAND SERVICE (TASK NO. 16-02) 11 MEMBER RUSHING: Thank you. I'm Mike Rushing, Rushing Marine, representing the general 12 I have the enjoyable task of trying to 13 public. help manage this firefighting training task that 14 we have, Task 16-02. Can you all hear me okay? 15 16 PARTICIPANT: Yes. 17 MEMBER RUSHING: Okay. I want to start by saying this is -- essentially, it's a 18 19 brownwater issue. It affects inland mariners and Western Rivers mariners and their credentials. 20 We'd like to ask that the members of this 21 22 committee respect the expertise of the seven

members of the committee that have brownwater 1 background and experience, as we address this 2 task going forward. We had a meeting yesterday. 3 4 It involved 31 people. We spent several hours 5 working in a breakout session. I think we've come to several conclusions. We continued to 6 7 work some yet this morning, too, but we're not 8 ready to make a formal report to the committee. 9 I can give you some ideas of some of what was considered and where I think we might be headed. 10 11 We're going to have another meeting --12 we'll continue to work with the committee through 13 conference calls and emails between now and the end of November. We intend to schedule another 14 meeting for November 30th of our committee, at 15 New Orleans, in conjunction with the Work Boat 16 Show. Arrangements for that have not been set up 17 yet, but will be. 18 We're hoping to include some of the 19 20 members from MERPAC into that meeting. Our 21 overall goal here is to try to end up with one

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report from both committees, so that it would

maybe carry a little more weight and be simpler 1 for the Coast Guard to manage. I don't know that 2 3 can happen, but it's something that we want to try to make happen. I think where we are right 4 now is that we understand that this is an issue 5 about credentialing for mariners that have a 6 national endorsement, not mariners that have an 7 8 STCW endorsement. Therefore, the expectation to 9 do training based on the STCW may not have, 10 really, any impact on the outcome of this report. 11 I expect that we'll probably end up with offering several options. 12 One of those options might be an 13 approved training program and a syllabus for what 14 that approved training program might include. 15 In 16 addition to that, maybe an option for a Coast 17 Guard accepted program that might provide the same level of training as what the approved 18 19 training would provide, and then thirdly, an 20 option to take it to an approved TSMS, also with the expectation that it would address the same 21 22 level of training that would be required by the

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1	other two training programs.
2	That's what's been discussed. That's
3	the majority of what's been on the table and is
4	on the table at this moment. It's going to get
5	massaged quite a bit between now and November.
6	Hopefully, we'll have a good representation at
7	the November meeting, where we can be face to
8	face and work with the group to further resolve
9	this issue. Our expectation at the moment is to
10	still be able to come back to the spring meeting
11	with a final report. That's our hope and our
12	intent. That's where we are today.
13	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Very good. Thank
14	you, Mr. Rushing. Are there any questions for
15	Mr. Rushing from the TSAC members? Mr. Fewell.
16	MEMBER FEWELL: This all for the
17	officer endorsements. What about the rest of the
18	crew? As a shipper, I've got a lot of tows
19	moving, two barges, two tens on a boat. If it's
20	involved in an incident, if one of those officers
21	goes down, what do the two deckhands or ABs
22	remaining on that boat, how do they know what to

do? 1 MEMBER RUSHING: We have training 2 3 requirements for the rest of the crew. Actually, in my mind, that includes the master and the mate 4 pilot, also. In 46 C.F.R. Part 27, it requires 5 training -- I'm not going to be able to quote it 6 all, but training, essentially, over all of the 7 firefighting equipment that's on the vessel. 8 9 Whatever's on the vessel, they require training 10 of, training for how to shut off the ventilation, 11 how to close off the spaces, how to activate the 12 fixed fire system, if there is a fixed system. Ι think that's probably the bulk of it. There may 13 14 be another item or two, but that's the requirement for monthly training and monthly 15 drills to actually practice fighting a fire in 16 17 the engine room and other spaces onboard the vessel and practice that using all of the 18 19 equipment that's on the vessel. 20 That's a monthly requirement for training. It's a monthly requirement for drills. 21 22 That same amount of information is reiterated in

Subchapter Subchapter M with one small addition. 1 M continues on with what was required since 2004 2 3 with 46 C.F.R. Part 27. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Vitt. 4 5 MEMBER VITT: One of the things we're 6 missing there is that -- Mike Vitt for TSAC. Can 7 everybody hear me? (Simultaneous speaking.) 8 9 MEMBER VITT: All right, I'm live and 10 in color. Mr. Rushing, a lot of the inland tows 11 on the Western Rivers and other places have tankermen that ride the boat, correct? 12 13 MEMBER RUSHING: Yes, there are vessels that have tankermen. Usually, those are 14 liquid tows that they're dedicated tows to the 15 16 public, but there are some boats with tankermen, 17 yes. Those individuals, in MEMBER VITT: 18 19 order to have a tankerman PIC barge, have to have 20 a firefighting course. They have already completed firefighting training. I wanted to let 21 22 you know that, so that you wouldn't have the

impression that no one in the crew, below the 1 2 officer rank, has training in firefighting. 3 That's not the case. A great deal of mariners who handle red flag barges do have firefighting 4 5 training. There also are a 6 MEMBER RUSHING: 7 number of towing vessels that do not have tankermen, that have tank barges in tow, that 8 9 they use shore tankermen, so there's no guarantee 10 that just because there's a tank barge in tow, there will be a tankerman on board. 11 12 MEMBER VITT: Understood. That's 13 basically the company's business practice, whatever that might be. 14 MEMBER RUSHING: Yes, sir. 15 16 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Lagarde. 17 MEMBER LAGARDE: I would also offer that fire training for the deck crew and for the 18 19 wheelhouse is also a requirement of AWO's 20 Responsible Carrier Program. The AWO members will also have, as part of their TSMS -- it will 21 22 be a TSMS -- some portion of a training

requirement that's already involved in the 1 company-specific training requirement, although 2 3 it's not going to be, necessarily, a Coast Guard approved third-party option, and probably doesn't 4 5 necessarily need to be. I might say that 6 MEMBER RUSHING: 7 training required by RCP is more comprehensive than what the training in Part 27 -- it does get 8 9 into the theory of fire and some of those others, 10 the management. It also gets into fire 11 prevention, none of which are mentioned in the 12 regulation. The regulation's all about using the equipment and fighting the fire, hands-on sort of 13 things. 14 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Myskowski. 15 16 MEMBER MYSKOWSKI: Chris Myskowski 17 with TSAC. It's kind of a question, I guess, for you, Mr. Chairman, being new to TSAC, and maybe 18 19 it's a procedural or scope issue for this committee. One of the discussions Mr. McWhorter 20 brought up was this idea of when does the service 21 22 begin to be counted. Is that something that the

subcommittee could make a recommendation on to 1 the Coast Guard, or would that be outside the 2 scope of that document? That will impact who 3 gets -- who would be required to get the basic 4 5 firefighting training. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: No, as a point of 6 7 order, I believe our vetting committee had 8 already identified a gap in the tasking statement 9 that did not leave us -- we usually ask the Coast Guard for an out that says, "And any other 10 11 recommendations that the committee looked for." 12 I'm pretty sure we added that item in our task 13 That already exists. statement. The subcommittee actually can move forward and 14 address any other issues that are identified by 15 the subcommittee in the process of working 16 through the task statement. 17 MEMBER MYSKOWSKI: Okay. Then I'd 18 just ask Mr. McWhorter, I guess, that you address 19 that through MERPAC, as well, and we'll work with 20 21 you on that. Thank you. 22 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any other questions

from members for Mr. Rushing and the inland firefighting task? At this point, I'll open it up to the general public in attendance for any questions regarding the progress on this task statement. We would continue to encourage our members of the public to continue to participate. Most of the bulk of this work, as this is our final progress report, is not done at these meetings today.

10 It's done behind the scenes, with the participation of many, many different members are 11 participating across the industry. We would 12 continue to encourage that and reach out to any 13 of the subcommittee chairs that are currently 14 working on any of these tasks, so that we can get 15 your comments and feedback and be able to 16 17 incorporate those into the deliberations of the committee. With that, Mr. Rushing, we look 18 19 forward to the progress report and continued 20 progress on this task and a final report for the spring meeting. 21

MEMBER RUSHING: Okay, thanks to

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everyone for your input. We appreciate it. 1 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, at this point, 2 we're running a little bit ahead of schedule, so 3 4 we're going to go ahead and take a 15-minute 5 break because we've been running since lunch. We will reconvene here at 2:45 p.m. At that point, 6 7 we're going to take up new business tasking that 8 we have another task statement on the agenda. 9 Hold on one second. I got a whisper in my ear, and our executive sponsor had a comment. 10 Unfortunately, he has got to leave us 11 12 a little early today, and we want to make sure 13 that we get that on the record while he's here. We very much appreciate the hard work that both 14 Captain Kelly and Commander Perez do for us to 15 16 move the process along for TSAC. CAPT. KELLY: This is Captain Kelly. 17 I guess I better have something to say now. 18 Ι was just trying to say thanks, I have to go, but 19 next time I'll just sneak out behind him. 20 Actually, unfortunately, I do have to go. 21 I just 22 didn't want you all to think I just disappeared.

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1	I want to say thank you to everybody
2	for coming here once again, like I said this
3	morning, and let you know that obviously, we
4	recognize the great work and all the discussion
5	that we value here today. I just want to
6	highlight a couple things that I really am happy
7	to hear about. I think Admiral Thomas I know
8	he mentioned this at NOSAC, and I know I
9	mentioned this the last time at TSAC about trying
10	to find opportunities to leverage the work of the
11	FACAs that are going together. I'm really happy
12	to hear the potential opportunity for MERPAC and
13	TSAC to have a combined rapport.
14	I think that combined voice is much
15	more powerful, and it really gives us a greater
16	opportunity in the Coast Guard to leverage that
17	when we move forward with whatever issue we're
18	working on. I just also wanted to beat the drum
19	again one more time about the importance of your
20	work and your help with Subchapter M. I know we
21	just delivered another guidebook here, but the
22	reason why it's so important is that this is not

just about towing vessels. 1 What the TSMS option represents is a 2 3 paradigm shift in the Coast Guard in the way we're approaching our regulations. We are going 4 5 to be talking to NOSAC next week in Houston about 6 safety management systems, which very much parallels the work that we're doing with 7 8 Subchapter M. The reason why it's so important 9 and it's a paradigm shift is because what we're 10 trying to do is to embrace a new focus. If you 11 look at the way the Coast Guard typically regulates, or an authority having jurisdiction, a 12 building code official, if you're a fire person, 13 like myself, you get together and you try to put 14 together, as the authority having jurisdiction, 15 16 your requirements. You usually, typically, fall 17 upon prescriptive requirements. You agree upon, for example, the size 18 19 of that door, this is the size door we need. You never think about it until there's a fire and you 20 realize how small that door is when you're trying 21 22

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to run out. But somebody, somewhere, came up

with a prescriptive requirement for the size of 1 that door. 2 3 Then 40 years later, the nature of these multi-purpose rooms have changed, and the 4 function has changed, but because you have a 5 6 prescriptive requirement, you cannot change the 7 size of that door. What we're trying to do here, in the regulations, with the safety and 8 9 management system, is start a paradigm shift. Ι 10 don't know how familiar you are with 11 performance-based requirements and how 12 challenging they are, but what this is really about is us to put our toe in the water here, to 13 borrow the joke from earlier today, about -- as 14 soon as we introduce requirements -- as a 15 regulator, and as a mariner, and as a receiver of 16 17 those requirements, it's great. That's my bottom line, and that's what it should be. It's your 18 19 floor. Most quality companies exceed those 20 requirements. But they do become your challenge 21 22 because they can't maintain pace with what you're

doing. The idea here is to create an umbrella 1 that values and brings in what the quality 2 companies are already doing and recognizes that. 3 4 As we talked about earlier, if you have a properly implemented safety management system, 5 you're going to have more continuous operations. 6 7 You're going to be less likely to have 8 an accident. You'll be less likely to see the 9 regulator, and you'll be rewarded. It'll allow us to focus our resources on higher risks. Ι 10 11 just wanted to be transparent with you that what 12 we're doing with the towing vessel regulations is 13 hard. You can see that. It's sort of dynamic, how we flush out the interpretation, how we 14 really implement it. It's because it's a 15 paradigm shift, both for the industry and for the 16 Coast Guard. I would just ask that you continue 17 to communicate with us and try to help us become 18 more competent as possible about a safety 19 20 management system, what it means, so we can teach our inspectors to do what I just said, which is 21 22 to reward those in industry that are exceeding

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our regulations and requirements and help us 1 focus on the highest risks, where they're needed, 2 so that you can have safer, more uninterrupted 3 4 operations. 5 I think it's better for everybody. Ι just kind of wanted to call that out for 6 7 everybody and, once again, thank everybody for 8 their focus, and thank you for your patience as 9 we work through, again, a real different change to how we're doing it. 10 11 If we're successful, we will have 12 changed not only how we're regulating towing 13 vessels, but we're going to be walking that into the rest of the industry. In fact, I'm doing it 14 next week with the offshore industry. Okay? 15 Thank you, and enjoy the rest of the day. 16 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We'll stick with 17 it. It's a ten-minute break now. We're going to 18 come back quarter to. 19 20 (Whereupon, the above-entitled meeting went off the record at 2:35 p.m. and went back on 21 22 the record at 2:50 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: One change to the 1 2 agenda is the presenter on this particular new 3 business tasking. On our agenda, it said it was our DFO, but we're actually having the chairman 4 5 of our vetting committee take us through the task, which, of course, is approved by the DFO to 6 7 make this change. With that, I'm going to turn it over 8 9 to Mr. Johansson, who's going to present on the 10 recommendations regarding operational risks 11 associated with towing LNG barges astern, which will be assigned as Task No. 16-03. As we all 12 learned, we cannot turn down a task that we get 13 from the Coast Guard, so this is our task. 14 Our job after seeing the task is to find a volunteer 15 who wishes to lead the task. That's what we get 16 17 to vote on. With that, Mr. Johansson. RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING OPERATIONAL RISKS 18 ASSOCIATED WITH TOWING LNG BARGES ASTERN 19 20 (TASK NO. 16-03) VICE CHAIRMAN JOHANSSON: 21 Good 22 afternoon, everyone. This was a task that was

presented to us. We reviewed this yesterday. The change that was made by the vetting committee was to remove both harbor and offshore and replace it with the verbiage that was reflective of Subchapter M. We had originally reflected the language in licensing, and then we opted instead to stick with the M language.

That's what we've done last night. 8 I 9 did that; emailed that out. That is right there 10 from Subchapter M, which is oceans, coastwise, 11 limited coastwise, Great Lakes, lakes, basins, sounds, or rivers. Then, of course, it is done 12 again on Task 1. Those were the only changes 13 that were made by the vetting committee. Other 14 than that, we will be sticking to what was 15 16 presented to us. But for clarification, those 17 were the changes that were made. This is the task presented to the committee. 18

19CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Thank you, Mr.20Johansson. As you can see -- we were talking21earlier about the comments. Usually, we ensure22that there's a Paragraph 3, 4, or whatever, one

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of the last paragraphs in a task statement that 1 allows us some flexibility within the subject 2 3 matter of the task for us to take and provide the Coast Guard with any additional recommendations 4 or comments if the committee so wishes. At this 5 6 point, we have received the new task from the 7 Coast Guard. In order for us to move forward with 8 9 this, we need to assign a chairperson that wishes 10 to spearhead the work of the committee on this 11 At this point, I will open the floor up task. for nominations or volunteers that wish to serve 12 as the chairperson for this subcommittee. Mr. 13 Caliendo. 14 MEMBER CALIENDO: Mike Caliendo, TSAC 15 I volunteer to chair that subcommittee. 16 17 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, so we have one volunteer for serving as our chairperson. 18 19 Any other volunteers? No other volunteers, so I need a motion. I'll entertain a motion to accept 20 that Mr. Caliendo wants to volunteer to serve as 21 22 chairperson on this. I need a motion.

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1	MEMBER KRESS: I'll make a motion.
2	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: A motion very
3	quickly by Mr. Steve Kress. Second?
4	MEMBER SALYERS: I second.
5	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Ms. Salyers has
6	seconded the motion. At that point, a nomination
7	for subcommittee chairperson as Mr. Caliendo.
8	We'll open that up for discussion.
9	PARTICIPANT: You're going to need
10	some help.
11	PARTICIPANT: Good luck.
12	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, so the
13	discussion, he needs some help. I read that as
14	at some point, you would wish to have us appoint
15	a vice chair.
16	(Simultaneous speaking.)
17	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We have a motion on
18	the floor. The motion on the floor is to assign
19	Mr. Caliendo as the chairman for Task 16-03,
20	towing of LNG barges. At this point, I'll call
21	for a vote. All those in favor, say aye.
22	(Chorus of ayes.)

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1	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Those opposed, say
2	nay.
3	(No audible response.)
4	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any abstentions?
5	Mr. Caliendo noted exception. With that,
6	congratulations, we look forward to your
7	continued work on the committee. We know you've
8	carried out a number of these tasks before. Just
9	for the record, it was not a taxicab or Uber
10	ride. Mr. Caliendo has noted that this task will
11	probably need some additional assistance. I
12	would look for nominations or volunteers who wish
13	to serve as the co-chair or co-chairperson of the
14	committee. Mr. Kress.
15	MEMBER KRESS: Steve Kress.
16	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: This is really
17	good, two volunteers, and didn't even have to
18	appoint anybody.
19	PARTICIPANT: You didn't have to pay
20	for a taxi ride.
21	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Yes. At this
22	point, if there are no other volunteers, and no

further discussion on appointment of a co-chair, 1 I need a motion to accept. Mr. Guidry. A motion 2 3 on the floor, accept Mr. Kress' volunteering to be co-chair on the LNG Task 16-03. Second? Mr. 4 5 Vitt. Any further discussion? Hearing no further discussion, a vote on the motion to 6 7 appoint Mr. Kress as the vice-chair of LNG Task 16-03. All those in favor, say aye. 8 9 (Chorus of ayes.) 10 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Those opposed, say 11 nay. 12 (No audible response.) 13 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Hearing none 14 opposed, and any abstentions? Mr. Kress abstains. Congratulations, gentlemen. I know 15 that there are some folks in the general public 16 17 who have already expressed an interest in participating on this task, in order for you to 18 19 stand up, and we will ensure that this 20 information, again, is posted on Homeport. We'll update the task statement to 21 22 show the fact that you have been assigned as

chair and co-chair of the committee, so we can 1 get that out. We look forward to your work on 2 3 that task. Mr. Caliendo. MEMBER CALIENDO: Mike Caliendo with 4 5 Thank you. Anyone that's in the room that TSAC. 6 would like to be on the subcommittee, if you can 7 see Steve or I and just let us have your contact information, we'll get you on the preliminary 8 Thank you. 9 list for the subcommittee. 10 TSAC MEMBER COMMENTS 11 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Excellent. We've reached the point of the agenda now where we have 12 some discussion from the committee members, so 13 we'll take comments from the committee, things to 14 consider for comments here, and things that we 15 16 have to address. We'll also ask for a report, on 17 the record, from the nominating committee, from Mr. Kress, as well, that we did yesterday, to 18 19 report back to the Coast Guard regarding our 20 by-laws for the appointment of officer positions on TSAC. Please limit your remarks to two 21 22 minutes, but we can go back around.

We're actually ahead of schedule, if there any questions that you have. Things that we wish to have the Coast Guard consider, this is your opportunity to speak to the Coast Guard, on the record, for additional tasking for the committee or any other comments. No members? Two things I've heard, at least people have been planting seeds in my ear to say consider this, so I'll take my opportunity, as the chair, to bring these two issues up. We heard throughout the meetings yesterday and today of the issue relating to definitions, in terms of license and routes. Rather than punt that back to the Coast Guard and say, "Coast Guard, please solve that," we have an opportunity to ask the Coast Guard to task us directly to take that task It's very much like our nomenclature task on. that we've taken on in the past. We think this could be valuable, in terms of reference, in terms of an ability to highlight and show people a pathway, where there are differences and lack of consistency in regulations or understanding

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terms.

2	If we can identify those, I think this
3	would be a good opportunity for us to consider
4	asking the Coast Guard to task us with that. I
5	open the floor to the committee on that for
6	consideration of a task for doing that. Mr. Vitt.
7	MEMBER VITT: That's a great idea. I
8	fully support it, however it's done. I thought I
9	was loud enough. Mr. Chairman, great idea. Mike
10	Vitt, TSAC. Great idea. It's not so much that
11	the terms, in their use, specifically, are
12	ambiguous. They're not.
13	It's just how they're cross-connected,
14	how a mariner's license interprets their
15	authority under the routes authorized of the COI.
16	A document that explains that, both for the
17	purposes of licensing, COIs, and life-saving
18	equipment, would answer a lot of questions before
19	they're asked. I absolutely, fully support that
20	idea, and I hope my fellow members do, as well.
21	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, questions or
22	comments for the discussion of the members?

MEMBER TERRAL: Joy Terral for TSAC. 1 2 For clarification, are we asking for a guidebook, 3 as such? In my mind, it doesn't MEMBER VITT: 4 need to be more than three pages, a very simple 5 6 matrix, or a very simple explanation would suffice. We're not asking for absolute clarity, 7 8 as much as you're hoping to provide a mariner 9 friendly, Coast Guard inspector friendly document 10 that's easy to pull out and use, so that the 11 questions, as they come up, are already answered. Any more verbiage than that is probably 12 13 unwarranted. CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Myskowski. 14 MEMBER MYSKOWSKI: Yes, Chris 15 16 Myskowski, TSAC. It just seems like there's not 17 a lot of need for a TSAC. I'm just trying to understand some of the people volunteering to run 18 19 that committee in the future. I don't know if 20 that's something the Coast Guard could simply do, since there's no real substantive changes we're 21 22 looking for, or recommendations. Is that

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1	something that we could just ask the Coast Guard
2	to do and not actually task the TSAC with?
3	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: It may be easier
4	for us to provide guidance to the Coast Guard
5	than to ask the Coast Guard to to them, it's
6	finding a project sponsor who will take on this
7	task, in other words. If we do the work for them
8	and say endorse this, this is what we think, this
9	is our channel.
10	From my perspective, we're routinely
11	asked by the Coast Guard to consider those things
12	that we'd want to take on. We found a lot of
13	value in the nomenclature and consistency of
14	using nomenclature. I think this could be just
15	an add on that would make that very easy for a
16	lot of members. Then, of course, it carries the
17	weight of TSAC. We had a broad consensus across
18	the whole industry in order to provide that.
19	MEMBER MYSKOWSKI: Okay, thanks.
20	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: At this point,
21	based on that discussion, I would ask the
22	committee to entertain a motion for us to draft a

draft task statement to send to the Coast Guard 1 2 for tasking us. 3 LCDR. NABACH: Chairman, if I may, Lieutenant Commander Will Nabach. I actually 4 5 think this is something that would probably just fit under the Item 3 in most of your open task 6 7 statements. This is ECS, if it comes up there, then maybe this is something that could be added 8 9 that -- just add it. Don't start something new. 10 (Simultaneous speaking.) 11 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Okay, so no need for a motion, based on the guidance from our 12 ADFO. We'll just take that as one of the 13 additional items that gives us the flexibility to 14 do that. Then the second item that had been 15 16 planted in my ear, over a period of time, is to 17 consider the issue of nomenclature for commands to harbor assist tugs, tugs that provide ship 18 19 assist services in pilotage waters, in order to 20 provide some best practice of standardization within the industry of commands. 21 22 Especially when the administrator,

this morning, was talking to you about these 1 tractor tugs and how they're utilized and 2 whatever, and that there's a great range of 3 4 diversity in each one of these ports. Yet, for 5 our mariners who move from company to company, who have to relearn what are different commands, 6 7 we think there may be some value in us 8 considering that and putting out some kind of a 9 best practices or standardization stuff. I throw that out not because I'm endorsing it, but for 10 11 your consideration because a number of members 12 have approached me about it for you to consider 13 it. Mr. Caliendo. MEMBER CALIENDO: I think that -- Mike 14 Caliendo, TSAC. I think that's a great idea, 15 Steve, but it seems to me that you'd have to get 16 the various harbor pilot associations and that to 17 buy into using those commands to the tugs because 18 that's who's going to issue the command. 19 I'm not 20 so sure -- that's a big task to get the various -- around the country, the various pilot 21 22 associations to accept what the tugs want them to

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1	say.
2	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Yes. I think we
3	could engage them in the process, but if you
4	don't start if somebody doesn't start putting
5	the cart before the horse or the chicken or the
6	egg here, how do you have the discussion?
7	Because routinely, harbor assist tug guys have
8	problems with commands from even pilots within
9	their own organizations. One day you're getting
10	a command from one pilot and a tractor tug gets a
11	completely command from another pilot within that
12	association. From a consistency point of view
13	and be able to provide service safely, some
14	understanding of what the language we're speaking
15	is, I think, might be of value.
16	(Simultaneous speaking.)
17	MEMBER CALIENDO: Sure. Again, it's
18	a great idea. It's not just for the towing
19	industry, though. It's for the pilots. That's a
20	much more fragmented industry, I would say,
21	nationwide, than the towing industry. It's just
22	a point.

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1	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Any other comments
2	from the members on that?
3	MEMBER VITT: Yes.
4	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Vitt.
5	MEMBER VITT: Mr. Chairman, TSAC has
6	already done this, many, many, many years ago.
7	In reviewing the accomplishments of TSAC, I
8	recall a tasking that did exactly this.
9	PARTICIPANT: For tractor tows.
10	MEMBER VITT: Not for tractor tows.
11	They didn't probably they still were overseas,
12	apparently.
13	(Simultaneous speaking.)
14	MEMBER VITT: I don't know how that
15	tasking was done or resolved or what the outcome
16	was. I couldn't find it. I'm sure it's buried
17	in an archive somewhere.
18	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We'll check
19	faca.gov or
20	MEMBER VITT: facadatabase.gov.
21	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: database.gov and
22	see if we can find it.
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1	MEMBER VITT: I'm not on it, so it
2	doesn't matter.
3	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Worthwhile, we may
4	wish to look at that as an archive. I just throw
5	that out as a discussion point for consideration
6	for tasking, not that we don't have enough to do
7	already. We need to be looking down the road as
8	to what things, as a committee, we wish to try to
9	tackle.
10	This is a question we get from our DFO
11	all the time. They would rather have us take on
12	tasks that we see are issues or on the forefront
13	of issues for the Coast Guard. Okay, any other
14	questions or comments from TSAC members?
15	Otherwise we'll move into the public comment
16	section. Did we have a sign-in sheet for any
17	public comments? I don't think so.
18	MR. ABERNATHY: I have no comments
19	provided to me.
20	CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We have no comments
21	or anybody who signed up to speak directly, so
22	we'll just open the floor, at this point, to see
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1	if we do have any comments from any members of
2	the public in attendance here today. Hearing
3	none, we have no comments from the public, no
4	comments from the members.
5	That would conclude our agenda today
6	for today's fall towing safety advisory committee
7	meeting. No other questions on Subchapter M?
8	This is your last and final opportunity because
9	I'm going to turn this over to our DFO and ask if
10	he has any comments on today or yesterday's
11	activities, and then we'll move to adjourn.
12	CDR. PEREZ: Thank you so much for
13	participation. We appreciate all of the work and
14	the comments and all the good information. We
15	look forward to maintaining the great partnership
16	and keep working on the task statements that we
17	have. That's pretty much it from our side, if I
18	can get maybe five to ten minutes with only the
19	committee members after the meeting, just final
20	words, and then just way forward, appreciate
21	that. As far as the public, thank you so much
22	for joining us, and we look forward for the next

interaction. Thank you. 1 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: We're not 2 3 officially adjourned yet, members, but I do have that one task. According to our by-laws, we 4 5 needed a report from the nominating committee for the Coast Guard for the officer positions. 6 7 Currently, Mr. Johansson was re-appointed by the secretary and re-appointed as the chair, the 8 9 vice-chair until 2018. 10 My current appointment is through September 30th of 2017. According to the 11 12 by-laws, we need a minimum of four names to provide to the Coast Guard for consideration for 13 chairman. If I could ask Mr. Kress to just give 14 us a report of the nominating committee, so we 15 16 can put that on the record. 17 MEMBER KRESS: Mr. Chairman, Steve Kress, TSAC. The nominating committee considered 18 19 eight names and voted to reduce that to four 20 names, as required --CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Mr. Kress, 21 22 microphone, if you wouldn't mind.

MEMBER KRESS: State my name, Steve 1 Kress, TSAC. Mr. Chairman, the nominating 2 committee received eight recommendations for 3 4 officers' positions and voted to get us down to 5 the four that are required. Yourself was one, Mr. Johansson, even though already appointed, was 6 7 another Matt Lagarde and Mike Vitt were the four 8 names. 9 CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Great. Thank you I appreciate that. The DFO has that very much. 10 as we move forward with the selections for the 11 12 next slate. At this point, I will call for a 13 motion to adjourn. So there's no discussion. т have a motion. I have a second, Mr. Fewell. 14 All those in favor, say aye. 15 16 (Chorus of ayes.) CHAIRMAN HUTTMAN: Then as requested by 17 the DFO, we're now officially off the record, and 18 if the members could just stay around for a 19 20 couple minutes, we'd appreciate it. Thank you. 21 (Whereupon, the above-entitled meeting 22 was concluded at 3:13 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Towing Safety Advisory Committee Fall 2016 Meeting

Before: United States Coast Guard

Date: 10-27-16

Place: Washington, DC

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

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