



Marine Safety Information Bulletin 01 - 16 February 19, 2016

Pipeline Crossing Safety Advisory

As reported at the January 28, 2016 Southeast Texas Waterway Advisory Council (SETWAC) meeting, the Army Corps of Engineers have identified several pipelines that cross the Neches River and Sabine Pass Channel whose depth below the channel bottom make them vulnerable to vessel and barge operations such as anchoring, spudding or dredging operations. These activities could cause inadvertent damage to petroleum or gas pipelines with the potential for explosion, fire or spill.

All pipelines of concern are located within pipeline crossing areas marked on charts and the Army Corps of Engineers is working to move or mitigate the pipelines of concern, however, this will take some time. In the interim, the Coast Guard is issuing this notice to remind mariners to use caution when working in close proximity to pipeline crossing areas and to avoid spudding or anchoring in these areas.

If marine operations result in unintended contact with a pipeline or if an oil, gas or hazardous liquid release occurs, notify the following:

- Call 911
- National Response Center (800) 424-8802
- U.S. Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston (281) 464-4855
- If known, contact the pipeline owner or operator

This notice will be posted on the Coast Guard HOMEPORT website at <http://homeport.uscg.mil> as well as on the Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) Website at www.uscg.mil/d8/vtspportarthur. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call the VTS Port Arthur Watch Supervisor at (409) 719-5070.


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Captain of the Port