



**Marine Safety Information Bulletin 31-02
Advanced Notice of Bunkering
within Bolivar Roads Anchorage
October 16, 2002**

1. In response to national intelligence suggestive of potential threats to U.S. economic interests, the Eighth Coast Guard District Commander in New Orleans has implemented 100 yard security zones around tank vessels of 70,000 dead weight tons (DWT) or greater, and other specially designated vessels during transfer of cargoes or bunkering. The Captain of the Port Houston-Galveston further amplified this guidance in MISB 30-02. An advance copy of this rule is available at <http://www.uscg.mil/d8/mso/hougal/docs/Final%20Security%20Zones%20Rule.pdf>. This rule applies in all waters within the Eighth CG District including the Ports of Houston, Galveston, Texas City, and Freeport, and extends offshore to 12 nautical miles.

In order to coordinate the mandated security zones for tank vessel operations, the COTP is activating 33 CFR 156.118 requiring advance notice of bunkering as follows:

-This notice is required for all bunkering conducted within the Bolivar Roads Anchorage defined by 33 CFR 110.197.

-Bunkering notices are required to be provided by vessel operators 4 hours prior to anticipated operations.

2. Persons or vessels making notifications of bunkering within the Bolivar Roads Anchorage must contact "Houston Traffic" via phone at (713) 671-5103 (primary) or VHF FM Channels 5A (secondary).

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Captain of the Port