



## Marine Safety Information Bulletin

03-10

6:00 P. M., Wed, January 27, 2010

### **Channel Closure (Safety Zone) Vessel Collision and Oil Spill Sabine-Neches Waterway**

The safety zone established in the Sabine-Neches Waterway from the North Forty at latitude 29°56.4'N to Texas Point at latitude 29°40.8'N remains in place. No vessel may enter the safety zone without the permission of the Captain of the Port or his designee.

The tanker EAGLE OTOME has been removed from the Sabine-Neches Canal. Oil containment and recovery operations continue. The M/V DIXIE VENGEANCE and tow is expected to depart the area of the incident at 0400 Thursday morning.

10 deep draft vessels have been approved to depart the port this evening. Commencing sometime overnight, VTS Port Arthur will allow pre-designated towing vessels to transit east from the moorings in Port Arthur. These vessels will stop at the North Forty for inspection and possible decontamination. Additionally, 5 ships have been approved for transit inbound on the morning of Thursday, 29 January 2010.

The Captain of the Port will continue to expedite the movement of vessel traffic as on scene conditions permit. Vessel authorized to proceed must observe a "no wake" speed through the Sabine-Neches Canal and any place that oil containment or recovery operations (including boom locations) are being conducted. Vessels authorized to proceed must comply with VTS Port Arthur instruction including stopping at designated inspection and decontamination locations. VTS Port Arthur may be contacted at (409) 719-5070 or VHF-FM Channels 01A or 65A.

The Coast Guard continues to monitor this situation and will keep the port community up to date of any changes through the Port Coordination Team (PCT) and Marine Safety Information Bulletins. This notice will be posted on the HOMEPORT website <http://homeport.uscg.mil> and the VTS Website <http://www.uscg.mil/d8/vtsportarthur/msib.asp>

 **J. J. PLUNKETT**  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port 