

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD SECTOR NEW ORLEANS

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Volume XXIII Issue: 052

Time: 1330

Date: 28AUG23

VTS Safety Measure – Pipeline Removal Operations
MM 11 AHP LMR (Update 1)

The Captain of the Port New Orleans is issuing a Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) Safety Measure for the waters of the Lower Mississippi River (LMR) at Mile Marker (MM) 11 Above Head of Passes (AHP) to protect persons and vessels from the potential safety hazards associated with the Gulf South pipeline removal operations. In-river operations to include the use of divers, multiple vessels – including anchored barges – will be working 24 hours per day and will impact the navigation channel. The following channel restrictions will be in effect:

Vessels shall check in with the Contact Pilot onboard the BB-70 on VHF-FM Channel 67 at the following locations for the latest navigation information and direction:

- Transiting Southbound: MM 28 AHP (Empire Locks)
- Transiting Northbound: MM 2 AHP (Pilottown)

Date	Restrictions
August 26 – Sep 13 Working Hours: 24/7 One-way traffic schemes might be enacted	Vessels shall check in with the Contact Pilot on channel 67 for information and transit at their slowest safe speed. One-way traffic schemes might be enacted.
September 13 - 17 In-channel Working Hours: 1700 – 0700: Draft Restrictions 0700-1700: One-way traffic schemes/no draft restrictions	Operations taking place in the navigation channel. Vessels shall check in with the Contact Pilot on channel 67 and proceed as directed. <u>Between 1700-0700, vessels drafting greater than 35 feet are prohibited from transiting. Vessels drafting 35 feet or less must use the bypass channel along the Left Descending Bank (LDB). Between 0700-1700, one-way traffic schemes may be enacted.</u>
September 17 – 30 Working Hours: 24/7 One-way traffic schemes might be enacted	Vessels shall check in with the Contact Pilot on channel 67 for information and transit at their slowest safe speed. One-way traffic schemes might be enacted.
Sep 30 - Oct 4 In-channel Working Hours: 1700 – 0700 Draft Restrictions 0700-1700: One-way traffic schemes/no draft restrictions	Operations taking place in the navigation channel. Vessels shall check in with the Contact Pilot on channel 67 and proceed as directed. <u>Between 1700-0700, vessels drafting greater than 35 feet are prohibited from transiting. Vessels drafting 35 feet or less must use the bypass channel along the Left Descending Bank (LDB). Between 0700-1700, one-way traffic schemes may be enacted.</u>
Boothville Anchorage	Boothville Anchorage South of MM 14 is closed to all vessels.
Back-up Date	If additional closure dates are required for operations, back-up dates will be identified after consultation with stakeholders and disseminated via email.

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Jake Voisine is the project manager and can be contacted or at (337) 296-6467.

Above dates may adjust. Updates will be disseminated via VTS email distribution and/or Safety Broadcast Notice to Mariners.

For further information, contact:

Sector New Orleans Command Center (24 hour): (504) 365-2545

Vessel Traffic Service (24 hour): (504) 365-2514, VHF FM Ch. 05A, 12, 67

Sector New Orleans Waterways Management: (504) 365-2280 or SecNOLA-WPM@uscg.mil



CAPTAIN K. K. DENNING

Captain of the Port New Orleans