

**NEW ORLEANS – BATON ROUGE STEAMSHIP PILOTS ASSOCIATION  
SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

2805 Harvard Avenue  
Metairie, Louisiana 70006

March 6, 2023

**VIA EMAIL AT: [wattigneylmjr@nobrapilots.com](mailto:wattigneylmjr@nobrapilots.com)**

Captain Louis “Toby” M. Wattigney, Jr. - President  
New Orleans - Baton Rouge Steamship Pilots Association  
2805 Harvard Avenue, Suite 102  
Metairie, Louisiana 70006

*Re: NOBRA Vessel Draft Restrictions*

Dear Captain Wattigney:

The NOBRA Safety Advisory Committee (NOBRA SAC) held a meeting today to discuss, among other safety issues, increasing vessel draft restrictions on the NOBRA route. After discussion and review of applicable Mississippi River depth data, the NOBRA SAC determined vessels with a draft up to fifty feet should be allowed to traverse the NOBRA route from MM 88 AHP through MM 175 AHP.

All consideration given to this recommendation is appreciated.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

With professional regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,



Captain Jason P. Ledet  
Chairman, NOBRA SAC

cc: NOBRA SAC  
George B. Burkley, NOBRA SAC  
Brian J. Eiselen, NOBRA SAC  
Captain Robert D. Heitmeier, Vice President, NOBRA  
Captain W. B. Brown, III, Secretary/Treasurer, NOBRA  
Arthur J. Lentini, General Counsel, NOBRA  
E. John Litchfield, Special Counsel, NOBRA