

Harbor Safety Committee

of the San Francisco Bay Region

*Mandated by the California Oil Spill
Prevention and Response Act of 1990*

April 25, 2008

Colonel Craig Kiley
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1455 Market Street
San Francisco, California 94103-1398

SUBJECT: Briefing to San Francisco Harbor Safety Committee, May 8, 2008

Dear Colonel Kiley:

The Harbor Safety Committee of the San Francisco Bay Region is pleased you will give a briefing to the Committee at our next meeting, Thursday, May 8, 10:00 a.m., Port of San Francisco, Pier 1 Conference Room. I suggest a ten-minute briefing with time for questions.

The Committee would appreciate your comments on the serious issue of timely reporting of survey depths to the maritime community, which is of critical importance to large vessel safety particularly for tankers and bulk carriers bound for the Carquinez Strait and the Ports of Stockton and Sacramento.

The San Francisco Bar Pilots, marine oil terminal operators and Coast Guard Captain of the Port place the highest priority of having and adhering to an agreed upon protocol for reporting survey depths. Last fall the Harbor Safety Committee requested the Corps of Engineers to memorialize the protocol in writing. Of particular importance are regular quarterly surveys for Pinole Shoal Channel, Bulls Head Channel and New York Point; semiannual surveys for the North Ship Channel; and annual surveys for all other areas. The Committee would like assurance that steps are being taken internally to ensure protocols and agreements between the Corps and the maritime community are followed after your tenure in the San Francisco Bay Area as District Commander.

As you may be aware, the Harbor Safety Committee was established by the California State Legislature over fifteen years ago to promote harbor safety by preventing maritime accidents. The twenty member committee is comprised of four port authorities; cargo, tanker, tug, barge and ferry operators; labor; bar pilots; recreational boaters; environmental organizations; commercial fishing; San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Coast Guard; NOAA and the Corps of Engineers.

We look forward to meeting you. Should you have any questions, please call me at (415) 461-4566.

Sincerely,

Joan Lundstrom, Chair
Harbor Safety Committee of the San Francisco Bay Region

Cc Harbor Safety Committee
Captain Paul Gugg, Coast Guard Captain of the Port

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