

AAPA Harbors Navigation & Environment Committee

Committee Business, Legislative and Regulatory Updates

September 1, 2010



Alliance of the Ports of Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States

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American Association of Port Authorities
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Format Overview

- *We have 60+ participants today – great turnout but could be unwieldy for input*
- *Each participant needs to have registered independently and not use a code or link from a forwarded registration confirmation in order to participate in the audio*
- *Participants can use Voice Over IP or call-in number for audio*
- *If you do not have VOIP, you need to select the “telephone” option in the audio section of your control panel and call in using the number and PIN listed*
- *All participants except committee leaders and staff liaisons will be muted by default*
- *To speak, please use the “raise hand” feature on your control panel, and Meredith Martino (the moderator) can unmute you*
- *You can also submit questions to the moderator via your control panel, which can be answered privately or for the whole group*
- *Moderator will advance slides, but slides and other attachments have been sent by email this morning for your own use if you wish*

August 10 Listening Session with Assistant Secretary Darcy

- *Nearly 30 ports represented*
- *AAPA Chairman Mike Leone indicated primary areas of concern were:*
 - *Slow and Inefficient project delivery process*
 - *Need for Regulatory Streamlining*
 - *Need for Stronger advocacy within the Administration*
 - *Maintenance dredging backlog*
- *Ms. Darcy addressed each ports' comments and questions raised*
- *Agreed to use the Quality Partnership to address issues discussed*

August 11 Green Ports—Blue Harbors Environmental Workshop

- *A dialogue with Environmental Community and Port Leaders*
- *Facilitated by Urban Coast Institute, Monmouth University*
- *Major Topics—National Ocean Policy, CMSP and Climate Change*
- *Keynote by Michael Boots, CEQ Associate Director for Land and Water*
- *Next Steps—Support and Participate in Regional CMSP Sessions*
- *Participants desired continuation of the dialogue with follow on meetings*

EPA Regional Leadership Forum

- *Held on July 14 in Baltimore MD*
- *Organized and hosted by EPA for Regional Administrators*
- *Focused on impacts of goods movement*
- *AAPA invited to participate, along with other industry representatives and environmental groups*
- *Topics of discussion included climate change and environmental justice, as well as clean trucking issues*
- *All participants agreed on the economic importance of ports and goods movement and the need to minimize environmental impacts*

Committee Leadership 2010-2012

- *Dana Blume, Port of Houston Authority – Chair*
- *Steve Tyndal, Port Manatee – Vice-Chair*
- *Rick Cameron, Port of Long Beach – Secretary*
- *Frank Hamons, Maryland Port Administration – Quality Partnership Initiative Chair*
- *Paul Carangelo, Port of Corpus Christi Authority – Dredging Focus Group Chair*
- *Aston Hinds, Port of Houston Authority – Port Sustainability Task Force Chair*
- *TBD – Air Quality Work Group Chair*

Planning Climate Change II Workshop

- *First Climate Change Workshop was held in November 2008*
- *Good attendance from throughout port industry and outside groups*
- *Topics included overview of climate change, adaptation strategies, mitigation options, regulation of greenhouse gases*
- *Second Climate Change Workshop tentatively scheduled for January 2011 after HNE Committee meeting in Houston TX*
- *Focus of follow-up Climate Change Workshop will be primarily adaptation to the effects of climate change (sea level rise and increased storm events)*

Future Committee Meetings

- *Winter Meeting: January 25-26, 2011 – Houston, TX*
 - *Approximately 1 ½ days*
 - *Afternoon of January 25, full day on January 26*
 - *Times for environmental and dredging focus areas TBD*
- *Spring Meeting: March 21, 2011 – Washington, DC*
 - *Held in conjunction with AAPA Spring Conference*

Ocean Policy/Marine Spatial Planning

- *President issued final Executive Order on National Ocean Policy on July 19*
- *Creates a National Ocean Council to increase governance and coordination among federal agencies*
- *President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) continues to lead*
- *Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning first phase of implementation*
- *CMSP will be undertaken regionally*
- *Funding has not been allocated; lead agencies have not been identified*
- *Ports should plan to participate in regional efforts*
- *Primary goal of AAPA is to protect the working waterfront and port-related use of the coasts and oceans*

DERA Funding and Reauthorization

- *FY 2009 and FY 2010 funding awards are being announced*
- *Ports appear to have done well in both national funding and emerging technologies competitions*
- *FY 2011 funding is unclear, as appropriations have been slow – especially Interior-Environment*
- *EPA anticipants moving forward with RFP in November, which would be similar to FY 2009/FY 2010 RFP*
- *AAPA part of a coalition working on DERA reauthorization*
- *Coalition has had input into draft legislation in Senate by Senators Voinovich (R-OH) and Carper (D-DE)*
- *Biggest change would be allowing private companies to apply for funds directly*
- *Sponsors/key supporters in the House less clear*

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)

- *House T&I Committee Introduced WRDA on July 28*
- *Authorizes three projects with Chief of Engineer's reports relating to hurricane and storm damage reduction, and ecosystem restoration*
- *Establishes a "policy" for increased expenditures from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund*
- *Authorizes four small projects for navigation.*
- *Authorizes additional Federal funding for the upgrade of the St. Lawrence Seaway*
- *Senate Version Not Yet Introduced*
- *Legislative Action Not Expected Until Next Session of Congress in 2011*