ATLANTIC COAST PORT ACCESS ROUTE STUDY

ACPARS
AUTHORITY - RESPONSIBILITY

• PORTS AND WATERWAYS SAFETY ACT (PWSA) P.L. 95-474; 33 U.S.C. 1223
  - Congress finds:
    • Navigation, vessel safety, protection of the marine environment are matters of national importance
    • Increased vessel traffic creates substantial hazard to life, property and the marine environment
    • Increased supervision of vessel and port operations
    • Advance planning critical in determining proper and adequate protective measures
AUTHORITY - RESPONSIBILITY

• SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY
  - In order to “provide safe access routes ... to and from ports or other places... United States.”
  - “Designate necessary fairways and traffic separation schemes for vessels operating in the territorial sea of the U.S. and in high seas approaches, outside the territorial sea, to such ports or places. Such a designation shall recognize, within the designated area, the paramount right of navigation over all other uses.”
  - Delegated to the Coast Guard
REQUIREMENTS

• REQUIRED WHEN WE CONSIDER NECESSITY FOR CREATION OF FAIRWAYS OR TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME(S) (TSS)

• OPTIONAL FOR OTHER ROUTING MEASURES
  - RECOMMENDED ROUTES
  - ANCHORAGE/NO ANCHORAGE AREA
  - AREA TO BE AVOIDED (ATBA)
OBJECTIVES

- DEFINE NEED
- TRAFFIC DENSITY (Present and future)
- FORM/TYPYE OF MEASURE(S)
- EXISTING MEASURE(S): STILL NEEDED?
- MANDATORY USE FOR CERTAIN CLASSES OF VESSELS
INITIAL REVIEW

• REVIEW ORIGINAL AND SUBSEQUENT STUDIES

• DETERMINE IF CONDITIONS HAVE CHANGED TO WARRANT THE NEW STUDY
STUDY ITSELF

• IDENTIFY STUDY AREA

• NOTICE OF STUDY IN FED REG
  - GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF AREA
  - INVITE PUBLIC COMMENT
  - PRESENT ISSUES AND QUESTIONS
  - EXPLANATION OF CONTEMPLATED ACTIONS AND IMPACTS

• CONSULTATIONS
  - VARIOUS FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES
  - MARITIME COMMUNITY
    • PORT AND HARBOR AUTH/ASSOC
    • LOCAL CITIZEN GROUPS
STUDY ITSELF (CON’T)

• COLLECT DATA
  - VESSEL TRAFFIC CHARACTERISTICS
  - FISHING (COMMERCIAL/TRIBAL)
  - REC BOATING TRAFFIC
  - DOD ACTIVITIES
  - OCS RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
  - ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS
  - DREDGING PROJECTS
  - ECONOMIC IMPACT

• ANALYZE DATA

• RECOMMEND ROUTING MEASURE(S)
STUDY COMPLETE

• NOTICE OF STUDY RESULTS (NOSR) PUBLISHED IN FED REG

• RECOMMENDATIONS:
  - FEDERAL RULEMAKING REQUIRED
  - IMO MEASURE REQUIRED
  - BOTH
  - NOAA - Develop measures / present for charting
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IMO MEASURES

• PARS COMPLETED
  - IDENTIFIES ROUTING MEASURE(S) REQUIRING IMO ADOPTION
  - CGHQ (CG-553) DEVELOPS IMO NOTE
    • BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION FOR MEASURE
    • ANNEX(ES) TO BE INCLUDED IN SHIPS’ ROUTEING GUIDE
    • CHARTLET(S)
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WHY? MULTIPLE/COMPETING USES
RENEWABLE ENERGY

• Wind Farm

• Hydrokinetic
  - Currents
  - Waves
  - Tides
  - Thermal Energy Conversion
  - Streaming/Free-flowing
    - Rivers, lakes, streams

• Other
  - Solar
WIND ENERGY AREAS

NEW JERSEY
DELWARE
MARYLAND
VIRGINIA

MASSACHUSETTS
RHODE ISLAND
N. CAROLINA
FLORIDA

WEST COAST
SPECIFICS

• LARGEST EVER DONE
• ANNOUNCED IN FEDERAL REGISTER – MAY 11, 2011
• COMMENT PERIOD CLOSES – AUG 9, 2011
• PUBLIC OUTREACH
• PUBLIC MEETINGS CONTEMPLATED
• NOSR PUBLISHED – CONSIDER ANOTHER ROUND OF COMMENTS
HOW TO GET INVOLVED

• Technology/industry moving quickly
• Potential for many projects
• Federal Register announcements
• Submit comments
  - Project Docket
  - USCG (ACPARS docket or directly)
  - Safety committees
QUESTIONS

Marine Transportation Systems Management

Providing navigation safety information for America’s waterways

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