



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

February 9, 2010

Cancelled Cargos Trim Lakes Coal Trade in January

CLEVELAND—Vessel delays caused by heavy ice forced the cancellation of coal cargoes that totaled more than 100,000 tons in January. Those cancellations, coupled with sluggish demand, produced a 21 percent decrease in coal shipments compared to a year ago.

Most of the cancelled coal cargoes were the result of an ice jam that clogged the Detroit River and delayed 13 vessels on January 10-11. Although U.S. Coast Guard icebreakers were eventually able to get commerce moving, vessel operators had to cancel voyages for fear of becoming trapped again.

The U.S. Coast Guard has eight icebreakers stationed on the Lakes, but five were built in the 1970s and are nearing the end of their productive lives. To bolster its forces, the Coast Guard brought an East Coast icebreaker to the Lakes for the winter and that vessel, the PENOBSCOT BAY, did assist many freighters.

Canada used to have seven icebreakers on the Lakes, but has trimmed its fleet to just two hulls. Since there are often as many Canadian lakers in service as there are American during the ice season, the U.S. Coast Guard is more and more assigning its resources to assist Canadian vessels and break ice in Canadian ports.

Great Lakes Coal Shipments: January 2005-2010 and 5-Year Average
(net tons)

Port	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Average 2005-2009
Superior, WI	465,598	687,977	532,042	847,858	390,328	365,953	584,761
Thunder Bay, ON	45,319	25,100	0	26,923	28,516	12,188	25,172
Total - Lake Superior	510,917	713,077	532,042	874,781	418,844	378,141	609,932
Chicago, IL	241,255	289,810	121,214	43,773	60,668	26,846	151,344
Total - Lake Michigan	241,255	289,810	121,214	43,773	60,668	26,846	151,344
Toledo, OH	0	0	0	16,141	0	0	3,228
Sandusky, OH	111,133	115,235	0	97,250	77,092	44,651	80,142
Ashtabula, OH	215,882	382,671	144,245	267,020	222,367	166,638	246,437
Conneaut, OH	507,550	442,939	471,898	197,485	0	0	323,974
Buffalo, NY	0	0	0	34,604	0	0	6,921
Total - Lake Erie	834,565	940,845	616,143	612,500	299,459	211,289	660,702
Total - All Lakes	1,586,737	1,943,732	1,269,399	1,531,054	778,971	616,276	1,421,979

Lake Carriers' Association represents 18 American companies that operate 55 U.S.-Flag vessels on the Great Lakes and carry the raw materials that drive the nation's economy: Iron ore and fluxstone for the steel industry, limestone, and cement for the construction industry, coal for power generation.... Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo a year when high water offsets lack of adequate dredging. More information is available at www.lcaships.com. Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President - Corporate Communications (440-333-9996).

Information based on data from knowledgeable sources. However, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Lake Carriers' Association assumes no legal responsibility for the outcome of decisions or commitments made on the basis of this

Suite 720 • 20325 Center Ridge Rd. • Rocky River, Ohio 44116-3572 • Fax: 440-333-9993 •
www.lcaships.com

The Association Representing Operators of U.S.-Flag Vessels on the Great Lakes

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY • ANDRIE, INC. • ARMSTRONG STEAMSHIP COMPANY • BELL STEAMSHIP COMPANY • CENTRAL MARINE LOGISTICS, INC.
GRAND RIVER NAVIGATION COMPANY, INC. • GREAT LAKES FLEET / KEY LAKES, INC. • INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC. • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY
KK INTEGRATED SHIPPING • LAKE MICHIGAN CARFERRY SERVICE, INC. • LAKES SHIPPING COMPANY, INC. • PERE MARQUETTE SHIPPING COMPANY
PORT CITY MARINE SERVICES • PORT CITY STEAMSHIP COMPANY • SOO MARINE SUPPLY, INC. • UPPER LAKES TOWING COMPANY, INC. • VANENKOVORT TUG & BARGE, INC.

information. This report represents the views of Lake Carriers' Association and may not necessarily represent the views of its individual members.