



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

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Lakes Coal Trade Fails to Warm Up in April

CLEVELAND—Like the economy, the Great Lakes coal trade remained sluggish in April. Shipments totaled 2.8 million tons, a decrease of 25 percent compared to a year ago. The trade was down even more compared to the month's 5-year average – 30 percent.

Only one coal dock, Superior Midwest Energy Terminal in Superior, Wisconsin, increased its shipments compared to last April. The dock loaded 2 million tons, an increase of 8.7 percent.

The largest decrease came at Lake Erie ports. Shipments fell more than 60 percent and totaled only 490,000 tons.

For the year, the Lakes coal trade stands at 3.7 million tons, a decrease of 46 percent compared to the January-April time frame last year. Shipments are 47 percent behind the 5-year average for the first four months of the year.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 18 American companies that operate 65 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.

Source: Lake Carriers' Association.

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

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

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