



*The Greatest Ships on the Great Lakes*

# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

July 20, 2005

Low Sulfur Coal Loadings Up 750,000 Tons For The Month

## Western Coal Shipments Surge On Lakes In June

Cleveland---Great Lakes basin power plants had a nearly insatiable appetite for western coal in June. Loadings of low sulfur coal at the ports of Superior, Wisconsin, Thunder Bay, Ontario, and Chicago, Illinois totaled 3.2 million net tons, an increase of nearly 32 percent compared to a year ago.

In total, the Lakes coal float approached 5 million net tons in June, an increase of 16.8 percent compared to the corresponding period last year, and a gain of 12.3 percent compared to the month's 5-year average. However, loadings of eastern coal at Lake Erie ports were down slightly in relation to a year ago and some 15 percent off the 5-year pace.

For the year, the Great Lakes coal trade stands at 16.4 million net tons. The end-of-June total represents increases of 6.4 and 8.2 percent respectively. Again, the gains reflect growing demand for western coal.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 12 American corporations that operate 55 U.S.-Flag vessels on the Great Lakes. These vessels 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 transport as much as 125 million tons of cargo a year.

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

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