



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

August 15, 2005

Near Record Month for One Terminal

## Broiling Temperatures Heat Up Great Lakes Coal Trade

Cleveland---The blistering weather that gripped the Great Lakes basin in July generated a dramatic increase in coal shipments on the Great Lakes to keep power plants producing the energy necessary to meet cooling needs. Coal cargos topped 5 million net tons in July, an increase of more than 17 percent compared to a year ago. The July coal float also bettered the month's 5-year average by more than 8 percent.

Shipments of western, low-sulfur coal from Superior Midwest Energy Terminal (SMET) in Superior, Wisconsin, came within striking distance of setting a new record for the most coal shipped from a single terminal in one month. SMET loaded 2,514,286 net tons of coal in July, just 33,887 tons shy of the benchmark the terminal established in July of 2002 – 2,548,173 tons.

For the year, the Great Lakes coal trade stands at 21.4 million net tons, an increase of approximately 8 percent compared to both the same point in 2004 and the 5-year average for the January-July timeframe.

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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