



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

October 17, 2008

Falling Water Levels Trim Coal Loads in September

CLEVELAND—With water levels on the Great Lakes starting their seasonal decline, the amount of coal vessels could carry each trip was impacted accordingly. Over the course of the month, a vessel moving coal from Superior, Wisconsin, to Nanticoke, Ontario, saw its load fall from 67,444 tons early in the month to 66,545 tons by the end of September. With water levels now receding, the need for dredging is even more acute.

The coal trade did register a small increase in September. Loadings at all Great Lakes ports totaled 4.2 million tons. The largest increase came in loadings on Lake Superior. Shipments from Superior, Wisconsin, and Thunder Bay, Ontario, increased by 16 percent compared to a year ago.

For the year, the Great Lakes coal trade stands at 28.1 million tons, a slight increase compared to a year ago. The trade is 2.7 percent off the 5-year average for the first three quarters.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 16 American corporations that operate 63 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 can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo a year when high water levels offset the lack of adequate dredging of Great Lakes ports and waterways. 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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