



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

November 13, 2006

### Lakes Coal Shipments Dip In October

CLEVELAND---Shipments of coal on the Great Lakes totaled 4.1 million net tons in October, a decrease of 3 percent compared to a year ago. Only two ports, Chicago and Conneaut, Ohio, bettered their shipments of a year ago. The October total was also more than 7 percent behind the month's 5-year average.

The October drop reflects both the effects of decades of inadequate dredging at Great Lakes ports and waterways and falling water levels as a result of less precipitation in 2006. The largest coal cargo loaded during the month that transited the connecting channels fell short of 65,000 net tons. When high water levels offset the shortfall in dredging, 1,000-foot-long U.S.-Flag Lakers were able to carry nearly 70,000 net tons per trip.

For the year, the Lakes coal trade stands at 33.8 million net tons, a decrease of 3.7 percent compared to the same point in 2005. However, shipments are slightly ahead of the 5-year average for the January-October timeframe.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 18 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 as much as 125 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.lcships.com](http://www.lcships.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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GLF GREAT LAKES FLEET CORP. • GRAND RIVER NAVIGATION COMPANY, INC. • GREAT LAKES FLEET, INC. / KEY LAKES, INC. • HMC SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD.  
INLAND LAKES MANAGEMENT, INC. • INTEGRATED SHIPPING, LLC • THE INTERLAKE STEAMSHIP COMPANY • LAKE MICHIGAN CARFERRY SERVICE, INC.  
LAKES SHIPPING COMPANY, INC. • PERE MARQUETTE SHIPPING COMPANY • SOO MARINE SUPPLY, INC.  
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