



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

January 20, 2012

### Great Lakes Coal Trade Down Almost 14 Percent in 2011

CLEVELAND – Shipments of coal on the Great Lakes totaled 27.6 million tons in 2011, a decrease of 13.6 percent compared to 2010. Compared to its 5-year average, the coal trade was down 24.6 percent in 2011.

Loadings at Lake Superior ports – 15.2 million tons – fell 20.6 percent compared to 2010 and were nearly 29 percent off their 5-year average.

Shipments from Lake Michigan rose to their highest level since 2006. Loadings totaled 3.8 million tons, an increase of 45 percent over 2010, and 24 percent better than their 5-year average.

The coal trade out of Lake Erie totaled 8.6 million tons, a decrease 15.6 percent compared to 2010, and a drop of 29 percent compared to their 5-year average.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 17 American companies that operate 56 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, aggregate and cement for the construction industry, coal for power generation.... Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo per year when high water offsets lack of adequate dredging. Those cargoes support more than 103,000 jobs with an average wage of \$47,000. 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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