

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

United States  
Coast Guard



Commander  
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Sector Long Island Sound

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16001/11-398  
2 September 2011

**Post Hurricane IRENE  
Letter to all stakeholders of the Long Island Sound Captain of the Port Zone**

Greetings,

Hurricane IRENE has clearly illustrated the complicated All Hazard-All Risk impacts of an immense natural threat like a Tropical Cyclone. It emphasized the sensitivity of our critical Marine Transportation System (MTS) and its consequential relationship with our other key transportation sectors in the Connecticut and Long Island ports, waterways and coastal region. Additionally, it underlined the efforts of all of the MTS stakeholders to keep the Long Island Sound Captain of the Port (COTP) zone viable and vibrant. It is clearly a team effort.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the MTS stakeholders at all levels for all their outstanding efforts in dealing with this hurricane, one of our highest ranked risk management events within this COTP zone. Your pre-event, during-event and post-event actions were a great team effort and were crucial in maintaining the viability and sustainability of our waterways.

In an effort to seek continual improvement, I would like to capture lessons learned and opportunities for improvements. I am asking for your input regarding pre-event, during event, and post-event actions for a severe weather or hazardous event. I encourage you to provide me or my staff (phone and e-mail contacts enclosed) with any suggestions for improvement. I also welcome the opportunity to speak with you directly. If you desire to meet in person, please call (203) 468-4472 to arrange a meeting.

Lastly, I strongly emphasize our established communication methods to optimize information sharing among all MTS stakeholders during all phases of an event. I ask you to widely reinforce these methods among your organizations and communities. We need open and timely communications from all segments of the MTS community throughout all phases of a hazardous event.

Thank you for your continued support and assistance as we work together to maintain safe, secure and sustained maritime operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. M. Vojvodich".

J. M. VOJVODICH  
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port

Enclosure

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Communication methods with COTP/Sector Long Island Sound:

- a. At any time our established 24-hour contact for all stakeholders is via our Command Center (1-800-774-8724 or 203-468-4401), or via EMAIL at D01-SMB-LISCCENTER@USCG.MIL.
- b. Prior to an event like this we post communications for our stakeholders via HOMEPORT <http://homeport.uscg.mil/lis> and via other means established by our Waterways Management Division (203-468-4596), our Facilities Branch (203-468-4401), our Planning Staff (203-468-4438/4556/4429), and for Port State Control vessel arrivals (203-468-4507).
- c. We've also established an online Sector Long Island Sound Heavy Weather "Meeting Room" at <https://connect.hsin.gov/seclis-storms/> to facilitate information sharing regarding severe weather related contingencies or events.
- d. Often prior to, during and post event we will establish an USCG Incident Management Team, which is typically the preferred entity to share information and ask questions associated with the specific event or incident.
- e. During normal operations (non-event or incident), you can communicate and share information with your local USCG Station and USCG Auxiliary.
- f. Our MTS Recovery Plan is available on our public side of HOMEPORT at <http://homeport.uscg.mil/lis> under Maritime Transportation Recovery.

Enclosure