

PACIFIC PILOTAGE AUTHORITY

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NOTICE TO INDUSTRY

Date Issued: 22 August 2016

Notice Number: 11/2016

Subject: Interim Guidelines for docking at Alliance Grain Terminal (East)

Geographic Area: Vancouver Harbour

Communication: Interim docking/undocking guidelines for Alliance Grain Terminal (East). These interim guidelines will be reviewed by the pilots, terminal operators and agents every three months until finalized.

Details: Over the recent past, pilots and tug operators have raised safety concerns with docking and undocking operations at the east berth of Alliance Grain Terminal. Specifically, Panamax-sized and larger ships with increased drafts and beam widths are faced with restricted manoeuvring room in strong athwartship tidal currents.

The following guidelines are an interim measure to help alleviate the pilots' and tug operators' concerns:

1. Tidal current restrictions

Ship Dimensions (metres)			Restrictions	Remarks
LOA	Beam	Draft		
≤ 228	≤ 32	≤ 9	No tidal restrictions	
≤ 228	≤ 32	≥ 9	3 knot tidal current window	Basis First Narrows current predictions
> 228	-	-	Slack water window	Basis First Narrows current predictions
-	> 33	-	Slack water window	Basis current predictions at First Narrows. Additional smaller tugs in lieu of a larger tug may be required.

2. When larger tugs are used for docking/undocking operations, they should be used on the north end of the ship.
3. When a ship is undocked, turned around and re-docked at the same berth, the larger tugs must be repositioned so as to continue to work the north end of the ship.

If there are any queries, concerns or a wish to meet to further discuss the contents of this notice, please contact the PPA at marineops@ppa.gc.ca or by telephone at 604-666-6771.

Kind regards,

Brian Young
Director, Marine Operations