



16711
30 May 1997

From: Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District
To: Distribution

Subj: TRANSFER OF EXCESS FUEL FROM CREW BOATS

Ref: (a) CCGD8(mvs) dist ltr 16711 of 15 July 1996

1. Cancel reference (a).

2. The issue of transfers of excess fuel from oil field crew boats certificated under 46 CFR Subchapter T was the subject of reference (a). This letter concluded that transfer of excess fuel was not permitted from crew boats certificated under Subchapter T.

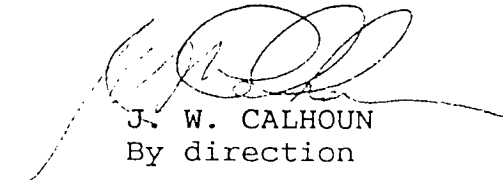
3. We have reconsidered the policy contained in reference (a). Following further review of 46 USC 3702(b) and its legislative history, it is concluded that oil and mineral industry support crew boats certificated under 46 CFR Subchapter T are included in the statutory (46 USC 3702(b)) exemption from the tank vessel requirements allowing transfer of excess vessel fuel to oil drilling and production facilities in that they are:

- a. not more than 500 GT,
- b. not a tanker, and
- c. in the service of oil exploitation.

4. Fuel transfers from crew boats certificated under 46 CFR, Subchapter T should be conducted with only the vessel's crew on board (no offshore workers, industrial personnel, passengers, etc.). The following standard language may be placed on crew boat Certificates of Inspection:

WHEN ENGAGED IN THE SERVICE OF OIL/GAS EXPLOITATION, VESSEL ALLOWED TO TRANSFER EXCESS FUEL FROM ITS OWN FUEL TANKS TO OIL/GAS DRILLING AND PRODUCTION FACILITIES. NO PASSENGERS, OFFSHORE WORKERS, INDUSTRIAL PERSONNEL, PERSONS IN ADDITION TO THE CREW OR INDIVIDUALS OTHER THAN THE CREW SHALL REMAIN ON BOARD DURING TRANSFERS OF EXCESS FUEL TO OIL/GAS DRILLING AND PRODUCTION FACILITIES.

5. Direct questions on this matter to LCDR Bill Daughdrill at (504) 589-6271.


J. W. CALHOUN
By direction

Dist: All Eighth District (Gulf Region) MSOs, MSU and MSDs
COMDT (G-MOC), (G-MSO)