THE MARYLAND CALL FOR INFORMATION (CFI) AREA

George Detweiler
U.S. Coast Guard
MD State Task Force Meeting
June 24, 2011
PROCESS

• Developed Red-Yellow-Green (R-Y-G) definitions
• Developed a process for classification of lease blocks
• Reviewed comments to RFI
• Reviewed available information including
  – AIS data and user input
• Reviewed existing traffic patterns
• Reviewed existing literature
• Considered opinions/advice of USCG Subject Matter Experts (SME) on waterways management and the ACPARS Workgroup
PROCESS

• Applied concepts from UK MGN 371 (guidance for determining risk levels based on proposed OREI distances from shipping routes)
• Considered potential modifications to existing routing measures and the creation of new routing measures
• Senior Coast Guard leadership review
• Meetings/conference calls with BOEMRE
• Submitted recommended classified blocks to BOEMRE
CAUTION

The USCG has advised BOEMRE that all blocks included in the Call may be considered for possible leasing and potential development. However, the USCG advises that these blocks require further study and analysis of existing traffic usage and patterns, as well as projected future traffic increases based on the development of adjacent and adjoining blocks which will be accomplished during the ACPARS. Such an evaluation will help the USCG determine what, if any, risks exist, and whether USCG should recommend that BOEMRE remove any blocks included in the Call area from consideration for leasing and potential development, or consider potential mitigation measures for blocks that are made available for development.
CONCERNS

- “Moving/relocating” traffic
- Cumulative impacts of Atlantic Coast projects
- False expectations of developers
- Shrinkage of area
FUTURE

• BOEMRE publishes the CFI
• Review comments to the CFI
• Conduct/complete the ACPARS
• Revisit recommended R-Y-G classification
• Recommend to BOEMRE revisions to CFI
ACPARS

• Announced in the *Federal Register*
  – 76 FR 27288; May 11, 2011
• Comment period closes Aug 9, 2011
• Conduct public outreach including public meetings
• Complete by May 1, 2012
• Results
  – Inform the USCG about the navigational safety risks, if any, associated with construction of OREIs
  – Establish new vessel routing measures
  – Modification of existing routing measures
  – Removal of some existing routing measures off the Atlantic Coast from Maine to Florida
Providing navigation safety information for America’s waterways.

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