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NOTIFICATION
DOCKETS

November 3, 2006 2005 NOV 13 P 4: 01

Docket Management Facility (USCG-2006-25767) - 693
U. S. Department of Transportation, Room PL-401, 400 SW
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Dear Sirs:

The Proposal for the Coast Guard to conduct live fire exercises in 34 permanent locations throughout the Great Lakes is seriously flawed and truly dangerous. The Great Lakes are home to a huge amount of shipping traffic. Major shipping lanes pass directly through the proposed live fire zones.

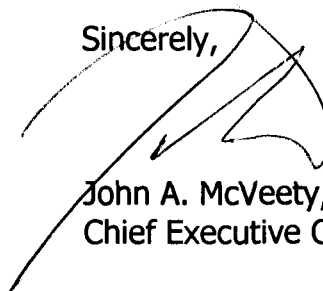
The Great Lakes are a haven for private boating activity. During the summer months all manner of sailing and fishing activities occur in all areas of the lakes. With the proposed live fire zones a disaster is unavoidable.

Although boaters should be monitoring their marine radios at all times, most don't. The proposed notification by radio of a live fire exercise in the immediate area won't work. Is the penalty for failure to monitor ones radio death?

The notification for a live fire exercise occurs 18 hours before the event. In extremely light air conditions a sailboat is lucky to make headway at 1/2 knot. Not enough time to clear the very large areas proposed for the live fire exercises. Not every sailboat carries auxiliary power. Should one be killed for having a slow boat?

The Coast Guard has been a valued friend to the boating community throughout the years. This poorly thought out proposal is a direct affront to Great Lakes mariners.

Sincerely,



John A. McVeety, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer

c: Carl Levin
Debbie Stabenow
Bart Stupak

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