

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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16704
30 November 2009

Mr. John Pertgen
International Association of Drilling Contractors
P.O. Box 4287
Houston, TX 77210-4287
(sent via e-mail to john.pertgen@iadc.org)

Dear Mr. Pertgen:

This letter is in response to your petition for rulemaking dated November 2, 2009. As indicated in my voicemail message, I am sending this reply to you via e-mail.

You have also submitted a copy of the same November 2, 2009 letter to the docket established for the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for the rulemaking entitled "Standards for Living Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water" (Docket No. USCG-2001-10486). The Coast Guard will address your comments under that rulemaking and therefore does not plan to open a separate rulemaking docket.

If you or your organization would like to supplement your comments on the Ballast Water NPRM (Docket No. USCG-2001-10486), you may do so on or before the new date for the close of the comment period, December 4, 2009. See Notice, extension of comments, 74 FR 52941 (Oct. 15, 2009).

Thank you for your interest and participation in the rulemaking process. If you have any questions, please contact me at the phone number or e-mail address listed above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Skolnicki".

MARK W. SKOLNICKI
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard
Executive Secretary
Marine Safety and Security Council

Cc: Office of Operating and Environmental Standards (CG-522)
Environmental Standards Division (CG-5224)