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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//CG-54//
TO ALCOAST

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UNCLAS //N16560//

ALCOAST 006/10

COMDTNOTE 16560

SUBJ: LONG RANGE NAVIGATION (LORAN-C) TERMINATION PUBLIC OUTREACH

A. COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC 251518Z NOV 09/ALCOAST 675/09

1. AS DISCUSSED IN REFERENCE (A), THE 2010 HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT DIRECTS THE COAST GUARD TO DISCONTINUE LORAN-C OPERATIONS NOT EARLIER THAN 4 JAN 2010 AS LONG AS CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET. THE ACT REQUIRES THE COMMANDANT TO CERTIFY THAT TERMINATION OF THE OPERATION OF THE LORAN-C SIGNAL WILL NOT ADVERSELY IMPACT THE SAFETY OF MARITIME NAVIGATION, AND FURTHER REQUIRES THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO CERTIFY THAT THE LORAN-C SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE IS NOT NEEDED AS A BACKUP TO THE GPS SYSTEM OR TO MEET ANY OTHER FEDERAL NAVIGATION REQUIREMENT. THESE CERTIFICATIONS ARE COMPLETED AND THE COAST GUARD MUST NOW MOVE OUT AGGRESSIVELY TO EXECUTE THE ORDERLY TERMINATION OF LORAN-C.

2. A CRITICAL STEP IN THE TERMINATION PROCESS IS A PUBLIC OUTREACH CAMPAIGN TO INFORM VESSEL OPERATORS THAT BEGINNING 08 FEBRUARY 2010, LORAN-C WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE AS A MEANS TO NAVIGATE. A COMMUNICATIONS ACTION PLAN TO INCLUDE PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE, TALKING POINTS, FLYERS AND A WEB SITE WIDGET HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO AREA AND DISTRICT COMMANDERS VIA NORMAL PAO CHANNELS. NAVCEN WILL RELEASE AN ADVANCED NOTICE MSG THAT WILL RESULT IN LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS/NOTICE TO AIRMEN. COMDT (CG-54) IS NOTIFYING A WIDE RANGE OF USERS AND STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH A FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE, PRESS RELEASES AND LIST SERVER POSTINGS. LINKS TO WEB CONTENT, BLOG POSTS AND OTHER ONLINE MATERIAL WILL BE FORWARDED VIA PAO CHANNELS FOR LOCAL USE. IN ADDITION, COMDT (CG-092) WILL CONDUCT CONTINUED CONGRESSIONAL OUTREACH AS WELL AS NATIONAL MEDIA OUTREACH AND NOTIFICATION VIA THE INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS.

3. ENGAGEMENT OF AREA, DISTRICT AND SECTOR COMMANDERS IS ESSENTIAL IN NOTIFYING AS MANY POTENTIALLY AFFECTED USERS AND STAKEHOLDERS AS POSSIBLE. THE CORE OF THE MESSAGE TO BE DELIVERED IS THIS: CONSISTENT WITH THE ADMINISTRATION'S PLEDGE TO ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND SYSTEMS, FEDERAL BROADCAST OF THE LORAN-C SIGNAL WILL CEASE ON 08 FEBRUARY 2010 WITH EXCEPTIONS, INCLUDING AT THE FIVE SITES THAT ARE BOUND BY BI-LATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH EITHER CANADA (CARIBOU, ME, GEORGE, WA, NANTUCKET, MA, SHOAL COVE, AK) OR THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION (ATTU, AK). MARINERS OR OTHER USERS OF LORAN-C SHOULD SHIFT TO GPS NAVIGATION AND PLOTTING SYSTEMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE CORE MESSAGE MAY BE SUPPLEMENTED BY OTHER PREPARED PRODUCTS FROM COMDT (CG-092), AND TAILORED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF SPECIFIC INDUSTRY GROUPS.

4. METHODS OF NOTIFICATION MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO LOCAL NOTICES TO MARINERS, PUBLIC FORUMS, BROADCAST NOTICES TO MARINERS, COTP MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETINS, PUBLIC POSTINGS OF WRITTEN MATERIAL IN AREAS WHERE USERS GATHER, DIRECT CONTACT WITH ORGANIZATIONS OR INDIVIDUALS IN POSITIONS THAT AFFORD THEM ACCESS TO LARGE SEGMENTS OF THE AFFECTED POPULATION, LOCAL MEDIA RELATIONS AND SOCIAL MEDIA TACTICS.

5. THIS LORAN TERMINATION NOTIFICATION MUST BE DELIVERED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE USERS TIME TO ADAPT. COMPLIANCE

WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE FY2010 HOMELAND SECURITY
APPROPRIATIONS ACT REQUIRES AN AGGRESSIVE TIMELINE THAT ONLY
PROVIDES THIRTY DAYS TO ADJUST TO THIS CHANGE.

6. SPECIFIC GUIDANCE REGARDING SIGNAL TERMINATION WILL BE
PROVIDED PURSUANT TO REF (A).

7. POC: CDR BOB FEIGENBLATT, LORAN PROGRAM MANAGER, AT
202-372-1558, OR EMAIL BOB.I.FEIGENBLATT(AT)USCG.MIL.

8. RDML KEVIN COOK, DIRECTOR OF PREVENTION POLICY, SENDS.

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