



Office of the Administrator of the Ship-source
Oil Pollution Fund

Bureau de l'administrateur de la Caisse
d'indemnisation des dommages dus à la
pollution par les hydrocarbures causée par les
navires

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PAYMENT NOTICE LETTER
(EXPEDITED PROCESS FOR SMALL CLAIMS)

Ottawa, 8 September 2022
SOPF File: 120-927-C1

Manager, Response Services and Planning
Canadian Coast Guard
200 Kent Street (Stn 5N167)
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6

RE: *L'Inséparable* – Trois-Rivières, Quebec
Incident Date: November 5, 2021

SUMMARY

The claim in this matter has been received into the Expedited Process for Small Claims. It has passed initial screening.

Therefore, please be advised that a payment to the Canadian Coast Guard (the “CCG”) in the amount of **\$15,947.60, plus interest**, is being requisitioned in response to the claim submitted in this matter and will be directed without delay.

It is recommended that the CCG collect and maintain the documents supporting its claim. To this point, no complete examination of the merits of the claim has taken place. A more thorough examination can take place if the Administrator determines that this claim should be reassessed. Supporting documents, such as invoices, payment records, contracts, communications, and reports, are necessary to help establish that the claim was fully justified during any reassessment process which takes place.

Reassessment can take place at any point up until three years after the underlying incident. During reassessment, the claimant must provide supporting documents requested by the Administrator within 30 days of the request. **Failure to do so can result in the claimant becoming liable to repay the entire amount indicated above, irrespective of the underlying merits of the claim.**

Please also give care to the “Important Notice” below. It describes how the findings made on reassessment can result in the claimant being required to return some, or all, of the above payment.

ASSESSMENT

This assessment was prepared in response to a submission from the CCG with respect to a vessel known as the *L'Inséparable*. The *L'Inséparable* was a 20-foot craft, equipped with a cabin, which drifted and was caught between two barges (the “Incident”) on the Saint-Maurice River, on or about November 5, 2021.

On July 18, 2022, the office of the Administrator of the Ship-source Oil Pollution Fund (the “Fund”) received a submission from the CCG on behalf of the Administrator. The submission was made using the forms for the Expedited Process for Small Claims. It presented a claim for **\$15,947.60** for costs and expenses arising out of measures taken by the CCG with respect to the Incident, apparently in anticipation of oil pollution damage.

The submission has been assessed as a submission under subsection 106.1(1) of the *Marine Liability Act*, S.C. 2001, c. 6 (the “MLA”), as required by subsection 106.3(1) of that Act.

Based on the results of this assessment, the Administrator has no reason to suspect that the claim should be disallowed for failing to comply with the conditions set out at subsection 106.1(1) of the MLA or for failing to comply with subsection 106.1(2).

Pursuant to subsections 106.3(4) and 116(1) of the MLA, the Administrator is therefore required to direct a payment in the amount of the claim, in the amount of **\$15,947.60, plus interest**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The claimant should be aware that upon payment, the Administrator becomes subrogated to the claimant’s rights with respect to the subject matter of the claim. The claimant must cease any efforts to further claim with respect to that subject matter (except for a claim for economic damages where the claimant suffered no pollution damage, which the claimant may continue to pursue), and further it must cooperate with the Fund as efforts are made to recover from responsible parties all amounts paid to the claimant.

The claimant should further be aware that – as noted above – under subsection 106.5(1) of the MLA, the Administrator has up until three years after the occurrence giving rise to the claim to investigate and reassess the claim. Upon request by the Administrator, the claimant is required to provide supporting documents within 30 days, in default of which the claimant may be required to repay the payment.

It is recommended that the claimant begin gathering supporting documents immediately to avoid defaulting on the timeline for document submission.

If, as a result of a reassessment of the claim, it is determined that there was an overpayment, the claimant may be required to repay the difference between the amount claimed and the amount determined appropriate under the reassessment. This repayment requirement also applies to an appropriate *pro rata* portion of any interest paid to the claimant.

Yours sincerely,

Mark A.M. Gauthier, B.A., LL.B.
Deputy Administrator, Ship-source Oil Pollution Fund