

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security
**United States
Coast Guard**



Press Release

Date: May 5, 2005

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**** Editors Note:** Still photos from the PAWSA are available at www.uscgnewyork.com **

USCG SPONSORS SAFETY MEETING FOR PROPOSED LONG ISLAND SOUND LNG FACILITY

NEW HAVEN, CONN. -- Coast Guard Captain of the Port Long Island Sound sponsored a Port and Waterways Safety Assessment (PAWSA) May 3 and 4, 2005 in Port Jefferson, N.Y., to assess waterway safety in Long Island Sound, including waterway safety issues associated with the proposed Broadwater Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility in Long Island Sound.

The PAWSA is a systematic assessment designed to identify major waterway safety hazards, estimate risk levels, and evaluate potential mitigation measures to reduce risk for Long Island Sound and the approaches to Long Island Sound.

Participation in the PAWSA was through invitation, and was designed to include waterways users and stakeholders such as representatives from marine pilots, tug and barge operators, passenger/ferry vessel operators, recreational boaters, commercial fishermen, environmental groups, and local fire and marine law enforcement units. Additionally, representatives from several state agencies observed the assessment.

The Coast Guard and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will conduct public meetings in Connecticut and on Long Island later this summer to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the PAWSA and its findings.

FERC is the lead federal agency responsible for licensing LNG facilities located on shore and within state waters. The Coast Guard is a cooperating agency and will provide FERC an assessment on safety and security issues related to the proposed facility. The results of the PAWSA will form a basis for the safety assessment. Later this spring, the Coast Guard will begin the security assessment using the Area Maritime Security Committee. This committee includes representatives from local, county, state and federal government agencies along with private sector representatives.

For further information on the permitting process for LNG facilities, please contact the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's public information office at 202-502-6088 or 866-208-3372.

For more information about the proposed LNG facility, please contact the Shell / TransCanada Broadwater Project Office at 800-798-6379.

For additional information on the PAWSA, please contact LCDR Alan Blume at the Coast Guard Captain of the Port office for Long Island Sound at 203-468-4504.

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