



AREA MARITIME SECURITY COMMITTEE Sector Delaware Bay

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact:
Tom Warwick, USCG: 215-271-4991
Kurt Ferry, Grant Sub-Committee Chair: 215-551-2664
Lisa Himber, Maritime Exchange: 215-925-2615

DELAWARE RIVER PORTS – The Area Maritime Security Committee (AMSC) for Sector Delaware Bay announced today that preliminary applications are again being accepted for the FY11 and FY09 Port Security Grant Programs (PSGP). The Department of Homeland Security has not yet released guidance for the FY11 PSGP. However, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has provided some additional information. It is the AMSC's understanding that:

- Projects supporting business continuity planning will be eligible for funding.
- There will not be a match requirement for FY11 funds.

As a result, the AMSC is re-opening the application period to provide applicants with the opportunity to submit additional projects for consideration. Those who submitted projects last month will not need to reapply.

Deadline: The AMSC has set the deadline at one week after release of the guidance. Further notice will be provided when a hard deadline has been established. The Committee encourages applicants begin preparing applications as soon as possible rather than waiting for the announcement of the deadline.

The PSGP is one of five grant programs that constitute the Department of Homeland Security Infrastructure Protection Program (IPP). The vast bulk of America's critical infrastructure is owned or operated by states, local organizations and the private sector. The funds provided by the PSGP are primarily intended to support the work of increasing port-wide risk management, enhanced domain awareness capabilities through development and implementation of a port-wide Risk Management/ Mitigation and Business Continuity/Resumption of Trade plan to prevent, detect, respond to and recover from attacks involving improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and other non-conventional weapons, as well as training and exercises.

In August of 2008, the AMSC completed the required Strategic Risk Mitigation Plan that will guide investments for security related projects for the next five years. AMSC members are now updating the plan as well as working to improve the security posture of the port by identifying key funding priorities. Through the PSGP, the Committee is poised to evaluate projects proposed by local maritime stakeholders that will address the region's security needs.

"The SRMP has proven to be an effective tool to evaluate and prioritize submitted investment justifications to gain FEMA approval. I look forward to using this rigorous process during this next round of PSGPs to meet both my goals and those of the AMSC Managing Board," said Capt. Meredith L. Austin, Coast Guard Captain of the Port and Federal Maritime Security Coordinator.

The Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay, which serves as Fiduciary Agent to the AMSC, has established a web site containing specific federal and local guidance for the grant program. The site will also be used for processing applications. See <http://www.maritimedelriv.com/psgp11.htm>.

The Area Maritime Security Committee for U.S. Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay is a partnership of federal, state and local law enforcement and intelligence organizations; governmental, regulatory, public safety and emergency management agencies, commercial waterway users and others who are committed to improving the security of the maritime transportation system in the Delaware River and Bay area.

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