

Barges King Arthur & SL 104 (2016)

Location: Mamquam Blind Channel, Squamish, British Columbia
Case number: 120-689-C1

The Incident

On April 14, 2016, the Administrator was informed by the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) of an incident that occurred on April 10, 2016, involving two barges, the *SL 104* and the *King Arthur*, in the Mamquam Blind Channel, in Squamish, BC. The derelict barges were deemed a pollution threat by CCG. The owners of the barges were no longer able to control the situation, and CCG took over the response. Booms were deployed to contain any potential release of pollution. Environment and Climate Change Canada provided sensitivity mapping products for the area around the barges. Transport Canada Marine Safety was also on scene.

CCG hired AMIX Marine Services to evaluate the stability of the *King Arthur*, and an additional independent surveyor to oversee the assessment. The Western Canada Marine Response Corporation was also contracted to provide additional resources on standby. On April 15, 2016, the *King Arthur* was moved away from the Squamish shoreline and secured to a local spud barge to prevent grounding and the possibility of hull damage at low tide.

A substantial quantity of solid waste was removed and approximately 135,700 litres of oily liquids were pumped from the *King Arthur*. All of the waste was transferred onto another barge for sampling.

On July 27, 2016, CCG confirmed that the *King Arthur* had been deconstructed.

Measures taken by the Administrator

On June 7, 2016, the Administrator engaged a firm to complete a locate and asset search on the *King Arthur*'s owner.

The Claim

On April 4, 2018, the Canadian Coast Guard filed a claim with the Administrator for costs and expenses incurred in the amount of \$819,134.67, pursuant to section 103 of the *Marine Liability Act*.

The Administrator determined that the claim was admissible under Part 7 of the Act.

Assessment and Offer

During the assessment, the Administrator made requests to CCG for additional information and documentation, which was provided.

The Administrator carried out investigation and assessment of the claim. On October 31, 2018, the Administrator made an offer to CCG for the established amount of \$814,012.78, plus interest, as full and final settlement. CCG accepted the offer on November 19 and, on November 22, payment in the amount of \$876,798.87, including interest, was made to CCG.

Recovery Action

In January and February 2019, counsel for the Administrator conducted further background investigation into the ownership of the *King Arthur* and the *SL 104*.

As of March 31, 2019, the Administrator was in the process of preparing a Federal Court action against the owners.

Status

The file remains open.