

West Island 395 (2018)

Location: Haida Gwaii, BC

Case number: 120-822-C1

The Incident

On September 8, 2018, the *West Island 395* barge, a sport fishing lodge, owned and operated by Haida Tourism Limited Partnership (“Haico”), came loose from her mooring buoy in Alliford Bay, Haida Gwaii, and drifted to a grounding point in Bearskin Bay on Lina Island. On the same evening, the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) was contacted and informed of the incident by the watchman of the barge. CCG established an emergency zone around the vessel because it is considered an explosion hazard.

On September 9, 2018, Haico officials advised the media that the crew that inspected the barge detected a strong presence of gas vapours. The operations manager of Haico informed CCG that the barge had about 18,000 litres of gasoline and 15,000 litres of diesel on board.

On September 9, 2018, the CCG contacted the operations manager of Haico who alleged to have “made various efforts to prevent, contain and mitigate potential oil pollution along with various other agencies”. In addition, Haico contracted a marine surveyor to investigate the cause of the incident and to assess the damage resulted thereof.

The Claim

On January 14, 2019, the shipowner, Haida Tourism Limited Partnership, filed a claim with the Administrator for costs and expenses incurred in the amount of \$1,857,314.06, pursuant to section 103 of the *Marine Liability Act*.

Status

The file remains open.