

Zidell Marine 277 & Jake Shearer (2017)

Location: Goose Island, B.C.

Case number: 120-732-R

The Incident

On November 26, 2017, the US registered articulated tug & barge *Jake Shearer* (497 GT) and *Zidell Marine 277* (<6,000 GT) became separated because of mechanical failure of their push pin, while sailing in Queen Charlotte Sound, southwest of Bella Bella, British Columbia. *Zidell Marine 277* then went adrift in rough weather conditions, threatening to suffer a casualty on the rocks or reef. The barge was loaded with 468,000 litres of gasoline and 3.5 million litres of diesel. Crewmembers from the tug were able to board the barge and drop its anchor near Goose Island.

Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) environmental emergency response resources were dispatched and another tug, the *Gulf Cajun*, was able to connect to the barge the next day and continue the voyage from Seattle, WA to Alaska.

Measures taken by the Administrator

When advised of this incident, the Administrator instructed the in-house counsel to inquire about potential claimants and prospective amounts of their claims, and instructed external counsel to obtain security from the shipowners/insurers, pursuant to the right of the Administrator to demand such under section 102 of the *Marine Liability Act*.

On May 24, 2018, a Letter of Undertaking in the amount of \$338,000 was received from the P&I Club.

The Claim

As of March 31, 2019, no claim had yet been filed with the Administrator, nor settled by the shipowner.

Status

The file remains open.