

March 2, 2010

VIA EMAIL

Canadian Transportation Agency  
Attention: Melanie Nera, Manager  
Rail and Marine Approvals and Determinations  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N9

Greetings,

**Re: Consultation – Proposed Modifications to the Guidelines Respecting  
Coasting Trade Licence Applications.**

I am writing on behalf of the National Automobile, Aerospace, Transportation and General Workers Union of Canada (CAW-Canada) with comments in reply to submissions filed during the above mentioned consultation process.

As CAW-Canada's representative on the International Transportation Federation (ITF), Canadian Coordinating Committee (Labour Organizations), I have followed the consultation process with interest, as we have thousands of CAW members employed as unlicensed crew in bulk shipping (great lakes), ferry services (east coast), east & west coast fisheries as well as coastal tanker trades (east coast).

Our members (and their employers) have a strong interest in maintaining a Canadian based coastal trade and the employment and business opportunities that go along with it. It is imperative that the Canadian domestic shipping industry be protected and maintained through a strong and comprehensive Coastal Trading Act. As a result, I wish to go on the record in support of a number of excellent submissions from parties that are of the same mind in this regard. In particular, the submissions our organization is in support of are set out below:

1. Canadian Merchant Service Guild (November 24, 2009)
2. Seafarers' International Union Of Canada (December 17, 2009) with additional comments (January 7, 2010)
3. Seafarers' International Union of Canada (February 26, 2010)

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4. ILWU Local 400 (February 26, 2010)
5. Canadian Merchant Service Guild (March 1, 2010)

Our Union appreciates the opportunity to reply and comment on submissions made regarding this important subject and would be happy to participate in future meetings or consultations should the Agency decide that they are required.

Sincerely,



**MIKE MENICANIN, REPRESENTATIVE  
NATIONAL UNION (CAW-CANADA)**

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c.c. Bob Chernecki  
Peter Kennedy