

January 27, 2023 (original notice sent November 18, 2022)

2023 Illinois River 120-Day River Closure (Full Lock Closures) Letter (Amended with Starved Rock update)

Dear Valued Dry-Cargo Customers,

This notice will be of special interest to customers that have freight moving to/from the Illinois River (especially for customers with barge destinations/origins in the **Marseilles/Seneca area** through **Chicago-Ports of Lake Michigan area**). During 2023, operations on the Illinois River will be severely impacted by the full and complete closures of 4 Illinois River locks: Marseilles Lock mi. 244, Dresden Island mi. 271, Lockport mi. 291. The closure period is planned to begin June 1 and will extend for 120 days until the planned reopening on September 30. The Starved Rock Lock closure is confirmed as cancelled; Ottawa is now a viable port to receive cargo during this closure.

Shippers: We have provided information and loading schedules for your use so you can plan your final barge loadings (prior to the lock closures) accordingly to avoid demurrage and/or storage charges associated with these closures. Also, please refine your plans, and plan with your barge unloading facilities, so that all barges are off-loaded no later than Saturday, May 13, doing so provides necessary time for barges to be prepared and reloaded for southbound trips. Please contact your ACBL Salesperson for additional details and possible options to mitigate logistical issues. As operating conditions dictate, these dates will be modified:

Schedule 'A': Instructions for Northbound Shipping (final loading schedule) from ports of origin, to destinations within the **Marseilles/Seneca area** through Chicago-Ports of Lake Michigan closure area:

| Origin         | 0700 Final Release Dates |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Mobile         | March 27                 |
| Houston        | March 27                 |
| New Orleans    | April 6                  |
| Pittsburgh     | April 6                  |
| Southpoint, WV | April 12                 |
| Decatur        | April 12                 |
| Memphis        | April 13                 |
| Evansville, IN | April 15                 |
| Cairo          | April 22                 |
| St. Louis      | April 22                 |

Schedule 'B': Instructions for Southbound Shipping (final loading schedule) from ports of origin, for barges loading within the **Marseilles/Seneca area** through Chicago-Ports of Lake Michigan closure area to destinations off the Illinois River. Please be advised, these dates are also our planned final departure dates from the closure area:

| Origin                        | 0700 Final Release/Departure Dates |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Ports on Lake Michigan        | May 17                             |
| Chicago/Lake Calumet          | May 20                             |
| Lemont/Joliet                 | May 22                             |
| Morris                        | May 24                             |
| <b>Marseilles/Seneca area</b> | May 24                             |

We will confirm and advise a resumption of shipping schedule after we review the status of lock repairs during the Spring of 2023.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. See our American Currents website for a copy of this letter and for updates on the most recent river conditions: <https://www.bargeacbl.com/american-currents/>

Thank You,



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