



## **Marine Safety Information Bulletin**

**28-18**

### **Port Condition X-Ray: DISTURBANCE IN GULF OF MEXICO**

**September 12, 2018**

The U.S. Coast Guard continues to monitor weather in the south-central Gulf of Mexico, which has the potential to form into a tropical depression with increased wind speed, significant rain, and flooding. As a precautionary measure, the U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port Corpus Christi (COTP) has set Port Condition X-Ray for the ports of Brownsville, Corpus Christi and Victoria, effective 08:30 a.m. on September 12, 2018.

All vessels and facilities are encouraged to begin planning to take preventive measures in advance of the storm. Such measures may include the following:

- Safety measures should be taken to secure missile hazards, nonessential equipment, and loose gear.
- Oil transfer terminals should be prepared to drain all loading arms and hoses of product, blank off hoses, and empty/ clean small discharge containment prior to storm arrival.
- Ensure that vessel moorings are adequate for the predicted wind and surge. Mooring lines should be ready to be doubled up with due consideration given effects of predicted storm surge. Consider leaving port if moorings are not adequate.
- Ensure that anchor and anchoring equipment is in good working condition.

At this time, vessels will not be required to depart the port and cargo operations will not be suspended due to the intensity of the incoming disturbance. Facilities and vessels may take their own action to mitigate risks in accordance with their severe weather plan.

Mariners are reminded that the Corpus Christi Inner Harbor Security Zone (33 CFR 165.809) remains in effect during severe weather. Recreational, commercial fishing and passenger vessels are not permitted to enter the security zone without permission of the COTP. Vessels must have a prearranged agreement with the COTP to enter the Inner Harbor as a safe refuge.

The COTP will impose vessel traffic control measures significantly limiting vessel movement and activities if gale force winds are within 24 hours of the port. Port Condition Checklists are located in MSIB 11-18, located under the Corpus Christi Port Directory on Homeport. Mariners and facilities are requested to observe weather reports and stand by for further direction.

**E. J. GAYNOR**  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port