Definitions:

This temporary port guidance addresses concerns with the timing of inbound/outbound transits of draft restricted vessels during the enforcement of the Patapsco River safety zone for the BGE Key Crossing project.

Draft Restricted Vessels means a vessel that must transit the federal channels of Baltimore Harbor and its Approaches, and the vessel’s voyage requires transit underneath the Francis Scott Key Bridge.

Safety Zone means the safety zone established across the Patapsco River as specified in docket number USCG-2021-0327.

Safety Zone enforcement period means the times that the safety zone will be enforced as per broadcast notice to mariners.

High Risk Periods are operations occurring within the safety zone that McLean, on behalf of BG&E, has identified as having a possibility in presenting the highest hazard. These operations involve the pulling of wires and lines that have the greatest potential for creating obstructions across the waterway within the location of the safety zone.

Guidance:

Inbound draft restricted vessels should not proceed past the Bay Bridge until the channel closure has ended as announced by the BGE contractor for High Risk Periods.

Outbound draft restricted vessels should not depart from berth or anchorage until the channel closure has ended as announced by the BGE contractor for High Risk Periods.

All waterway users should take note broadcasted scheduled enforcement and plan accordingly. During High Risk Periods identified by the contractor, all waterway users and waterfront facilities should be cognizant that the work conducted potentially presents the following hazards, low-hanging or falling ropes or cables, helicopter rotor downwash and noise, dangerous projectiles, and or other debris – as described in docket number USCG-2021-0327.