

# PACIFIC PILOTAGE AUTHORITY

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## NOTICE TO INDUSTRY

**Date Issued:** 16 February 2024

**Notice Number:** 01/2024

**Subject:** Porpoise Channel / Pembina LPG Terminal (Watson Island)

**Geographic Area:** Prince Rupert, BC

### Details:

1. LPG vessel transits in Porpoise Channel between the berth and buoy D24 are restricted to daylight hours, i.e., between morning and evening civil twilight times.
2. Pilots for outbound vessels must be ordered for at least 60 minutes before the high-water slack water at Gay Island and at least 85 minutes before daylight ends. Pilots for inbound vessels must be ordered accordingly so that the vessel passes buoy D24 at least 25 minutes before slack water at Gay Island and at least 60 minutes before daylight ends. Slack Water at Gay Island is determined by the Porpoise Channel East (#9341) CHS tidal current station predictions.
3. Ship transits in Porpoise Channel shall not be conducted when sustained (or forecasted sustained) wind velocity exceeds 25 knots (measured at buoy D24). Wind data, updated every fifteen minutes, is available at <https://www.rupertport.com/live-harbour-data/>
4. The controlling depth for the transit is 7.00 metres. To allow for sea and swell conditions over Agnew Bank, the height of tide must allow for a minimum UKC of 25% of the vessel's draft for the entire transit period.
5. LPG vessels shall have a dual tethered tug escort, one tug forward and one tug aft, for all inbound and outbound transits between Agnew Bank and the Watson Island dock. Each tug should be capable of producing a minimum forty (40) tonnes of line force at a speed of six (6) knots. In addition, a patrol boat will also escort the vessel while transiting Porpoise Channel.
6. LPG vessels shall have a single tethered escort tug when outside Porpoise Channel but within PRPA harbour limits. When inbound, the tug must be tethered before the 'D24' buoy, and when outbound, the tethered tug may be released when the vessel is clear of the harbour limits.
7. Transit speeds in Porpoise Channel and Porpoise Harbour must be less than six (6) knots. Outside Porpoise Channel but within the waters requiring a tug escort, transit speed should not exceed eight (8) knots.
8. Tide and current sensors are located at the Watson Island dock, tide sensors are located at Aero Trading and a current sensor is located south of Gay Island in Porpoise Channel. The current data is also available at <https://www.rupertport.com/live-harbour-data/>
9. The port information guide for Prince Rupert may be viewed at <https://www.rupertport.com/port-information-guide/>.

If there are any queries on the contents of this notice, please contact the PPA at [marineops@ppa.gc.ca](mailto:marineops@ppa.gc.ca).