



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®  
Detroit District

## HARBOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORIES Calumet Harbor, Illinois and Indiana



**Harbor Location:** Calumet Harbor is located on the southwest shore of Lake Michigan in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois and the approach channel and outer harbor are located Lake County, Indiana; approximately eleven miles south of Chicago Harbor in Chicago, Illinois.

**Authority:** Rivers and Harbors Acts of 1899, 1902, 1935, 1960, 1962, and 1965

**Project Description:** Originally authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, Calumet Harbor is a deep draft commercial harbor. The harbor is protected by 12,153 linear feet of steel sheetpile and timber crib breakwater structures. Longest fetch and direction: 300 miles, northeasterly. Maximum Recorded Wave Height: 20.3' (1965). Typical Storm Wave (2-yr offshore wave): 16.7'.

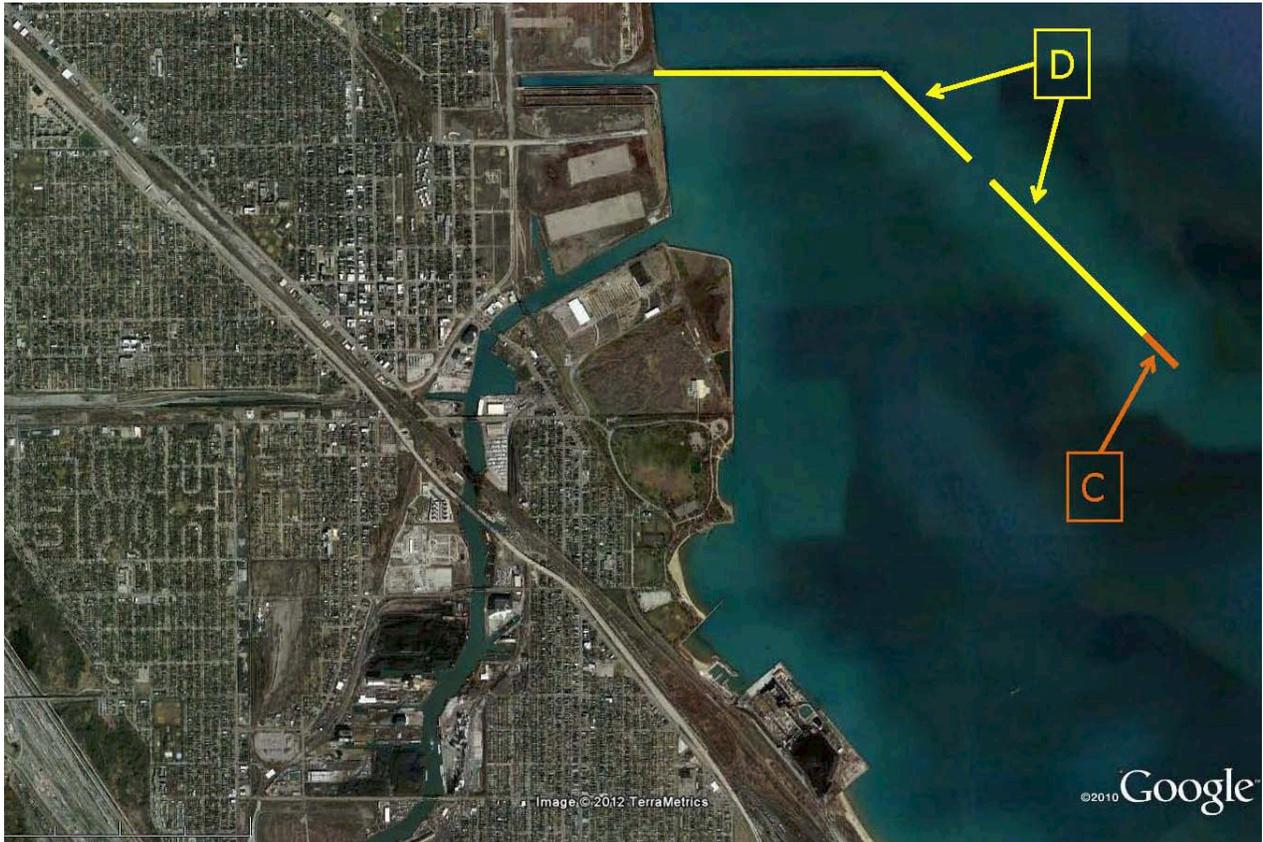
**Traffic:** 14,628,800 tons (5-Year average, 2004-2008)

**Transportation Importance:** The harbor is the primary link (of only two possible routes) between the Inland-Waterway system, the Great Lakes, and foreign ports. From this harbor, deep-draft ships can reach the Atlantic Ocean through the St. Lawrence Seaway, and barges can reach the Gulf of Mexico through the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The harbor is the best safe refuge on southern Lake Michigan due to its ease of entry during storms. It permits the safe operation of over 3,000 river barges annually between the Inland-Waterway system and Indiana, Gary, or Burns Waterway Harbors. Commodities are limestone, coke, coal, salt, grain, cement, liquid bulk, potash, and steel. Nearly 3M tons of coal is shipped to 22 ports on the Great Lakes. The 3,494 jobs associated with the harbors various industries generate nearly \$160M annually in personal income.

### **Congressional Interest:**

- Representative Jesse L. Jackson, Jr., D-IL-2
- Senator Richard Durbin, D-IL
- Senator Mark Kirk, R-IL

**Current Condition Assessment:** **D**



**Date of Site Visit:** 19 August 2010

**Summary of Impact:** The immediate impact of a breach and/or overtopping of the breakwaters would be upon the State Line Generation Plant, Calumet Yacht Club, U.S. Coast Guard – Station Calumet Harbor, Calumet Park Pavilion, Chicago Air Sea Rescue Helipad, Chicago Confined Disposal Facility and Chicago Stone Dock. Significant wave activity within the harbor could damage vessels moored at the power plant and prevent coal unloading operations. Additionally, any breach in the breakwater could potentially increase the rate of shoaling within the federal and private channels, resulting in added transportation costs due to light loading. The marina within the harbor could be exposed to greater wave heights under certain storm conditions. An increased wave climate would result in damage to docked vessels and the docks themselves. The U.S. Coast Guard Station – Calumet Harbor, the largest and busiest station in the Ninth Coast Guard District, operates from the harbor and conducts over 200 search and rescue and 1,000 law enforcement boarding missions each year. The shore structures with the greatest exposure are State Line Generation Plant, Calumet Yacht Club, U.S. Coast Guard – Station Calumet Harbor, Calumet Park Pavilion, Chicago Air Sea Rescue Helipad, Chicago Confined Disposal Facility and Chicago Stone Dock. Other shore structures subject to inundation include the Illinois International Port District – Iroquois Landing. Additionally, any adverse impact to the breakwaters would significantly affect the almost 14 million short tons of commodities that are shipped from and received to Calumet Harbor annually.

## Examples of Protected Infrastructure:



**1. State Line Generation Plant:** The State Line Generation Plant is a coal-fired electrical generating station. Most of the facility dates back to 1929, making this plant one of the oldest large-scale urban electrical generating stations in the United States. This facility has a year-round capacity of 515 megawatts.



**2. Calumet Yacht Club:** The Calumet Yacht Club is a privately owned marina consisting of 80 seasonal and transient boat slips. The marina consists of floating docks with a water to land interface consisting of sheet piles.



**3. U.S. Coast Guard – Station Calumet Harbor:** Station Calumet Harbor is the largest and busiest station in the Ninth Coast Guard District. The station partakes in many missions including Search and Rescue, Law enforcement and Marine safety. The Station also conducts about ten Presidential Security Zones and over 75 major marine events including the Chicago Air and Water Show, which is the largest of its kind in the world with over 3,000,000 spectators on an annual basis.



**4. Calumet Park Pavilion:** The Calumet Park Pavilion consists of a covered eating area with restroom facilities.



**5. Chicago Area Confined Disposal Facility:** The Chicago Area Confined Disposal Facility consists of two quadrangular ponds, separated by a low (or submerged) cross-dike, both contained in a taller dike. The forty-two acre site, which has a design storage capacity of 1.3 million cubic yards of dredged material, provides adequate storage for sediment not suitable for open water disposal.



**6. Chicago Area Stone Storage Dock:** Chicago Stone Dock serves as a staging and storage area for assorted sizes and types of stone used for the repair of breakwaters at the various Chicago District Harbors. Chicago Stone Dock receives and handles between 50,000 and 150,000 tons of stone per year.



**7. Illinois International Port District – Iroquois Landing:** The Iroquois Landing Terminal handles all types of steel and bulk cargo: trans-shipment, unloading of barges and oceangoing vessels, storage and inventory management. The outside storage space covers over 90 acres and the inside storage space consists of two 110,000 square foot warehouses each outfitted with loading docks. An additional 100 acres of storage is also available next to the terminal.



**8. Calumet Harbor Operations Facility:** Calumet Harbor Operations Facility serves as a storage area for various types of equipment and a dry storage area for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Chicago District's vessels.



**Potential Impact Area:** The following graphic displays property parcels that could be impacted within various zones defined by different setbacks from the shoreline behind existing Federal coastal structures. Values are based on real property tax assessments from these parcels, and don't reflect any detailed coastal zone damage assessments. Figures simply reflect property values at various setbacks.

