

# VICTORIAN NOTICES TO MARINERS

The following Notice to Mariners is published for general information.

MELBOURNE 10 December 2010

AUSTRALIA – VICTORIA

No 133(T) - 10

PORT OF MELBOURNE

**RIVER YARRA – EXTENSION OF WESTGATE BRIDGE STRENGTHENING WORKS**

**Date:** Effective 0001 hours on 11 December to 2359 hours on 17 December 2010  
and 0001 hours on 10 January 2011 to on about 31 March 2011

**Former Notice:** NTM No. 98-10 refers and is cancelled.

**Details:** Mariners are advised that strengthening works on the Westgate Bridge currently underway over the shipping channel are being carried out by semi-static platforms located beneath the centre span of the Westgate Bridge. The platforms are shallower in depth than the previously used gantries and are to work 24/7 (except during the Christmas Break) until the planned completion of the strengthening works on about 31 March 2011.

Construction works over the shipping channel will cease for the Christmas Break from 18 December 2010 and resume on 10 January 2011.

The following restrictions for transiting vessels apply until 17 December 2010 and the restrictions will resume on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2011 until 31 March 2011:

**Vessels with an air draught of less than 43.5m**

- No restrictions apply however notice is to be provided to construction crew.

**Vessels with an air draught between 43.5m and 49m**

- Transit is permitted subject to evacuation of all personnel from the platform.

### **Vessels with an air draught greater than 49m**

- Transit is permitted subject to obtaining a permit from the Berth Allocator 24 hours prior transit. The Berth Allocator's email address is: [berthallocator@portofmelbourne.com](mailto:berthallocator@portofmelbourne.com)

### **Notice of requirement to transit**

**Melbourne VTS will relay the notice to the Westgate Bridge Platform Master.**

### **Vessels with an air draught less than 43.5m**

Notice to be provided to platform master for vessel transiting the Westgate Bridge.

- Incoming vessels report to Melbourne VTS on passing Breakwater Pier.
- Departing vessels report to Melbourne VTS on departure from berths upstream of the Westgate Bridge.

### **Vessels with an air draught between 43.5m and 49m**

Notice to be provided to platform master to evacuate all personnel from the work platform for vessels transiting the bridge.

- Incoming vessels report to Melbourne VTS 30 minutes prior arrival at Fawkner Beacon.
- Departing vessels report to Melbourne VTS 30 minutes prior departing berths upstream of the Westgate Bridge.

### **Vessels with an air draught greater than 49m**

Transit subject to conditions of the permit granted.

Notice to be provided to the platform master to evacuate all personnel and lift the work platform for the vessel transiting the bridge.

- Incoming vessels report to Lonsdale VTS 2 hours prior arrival at Port Phillip Pilot Station.
- Departing vessels report to Melbourne VTS 4 hours prior departing berths upstream of the Westgate Bridge.

### **Accuracy of Vessel Transit Information**

Masters and Agents of vessels are reminded of the critical nature of the operation and are advised to exercise due care to ensure the accuracy of the air draught when providing vessel's arrival and departure information to Melbourne VTS. Master's and Agents are also reminded to ensure the accuracy of estimated departure time when notifying Melbourne VTS of the required 30 minutes / 4 hours notice to depart the berth depending on vessel's air draught.

**Charts &  
Publications  
Affected:** AUS 154.

**Further notice:** No further notice will be issued.

**DAVID SHENNAN  
HARBOUR MASTER**