

# **INLAND ANCHORAGES AND TURNING BASINS**

MIKE MEASELLS



**Stanolind (25')**

**Sun Upper (40')**

**Sun Lower (35')**

**Fina Upper (28')**

**Fina Lower (34')**

**Federal Anchorage**



# ACTUAL – EVENT SUMMARY

The 656' long, foreign flag ship STX ARBORELLA was reportedly seized by Federal Marshalls and moved to the area referred to as Fina Upper Anchorage on June 10, 2013. The operating company for the STX ARBORELLA had reportedly declared bankruptcy. The vessel remained at the Fina Upper Anchorage for a total of 36 days in indefinite status. On July 9, 2013, the STX ARBORELLA was released by the U.S. Marshall. On July 26, 2013, the vessel departed to sea.

## ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE DISCUSSED

- a. Who, if anyone, has control or jurisdiction over the deep water inland turning basins and emergency anchorages.
- b. How can we ensure that they continue to be used for the intended purpose of ship turning, emergency anchoring, short term mooring and bunkering?
- c. What authority might the State of Texas, Sabine-Neches Navigation District, ACOE, or the USCG have?
- d. Who decides if it is OK to move a seized, derelict, or otherwise unemployed vessel to one of our inner anchorages or turning basins – especially for an indefinite period?
- e. What if the STX ARBORELLA had become derelict and abandoned?
- f. What if the STX ARBORELLA dragged anchor and drifted backwards into the Neches River channel. Who to call, and who would respond to a reportedly bankrupt company?

## **REQUEST TO SETWAC BOARD**

**Mr. Chairman, I request permission to convene and Chair an Ad-Hoc Sub-committee under the umbrella of the SETWAC Navigation Sub-committee to explore the issue of specific authorities and control of the Sabine-Neches inland turning basins and emergency anchorages and report findings to the SETWAC board for further discussion and possible recommendation.**

## **SUGGESTED MEMBERS OF THE AD-HOC COMMITTEE**

- a. ACOE Representative.**
- b. USCG Representative.**
- c. TGLO Representative.**
- d. SNND Representative.**
- e. Sabine Pilots Representative.**
- f. Inland Towing Company Representative.**
- g. Other interested parties as appropriate.**