environment SOUTHLAND
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Taiao Tonga

17 September 2018

Sean Bolt
Port Otago Limited
15 Beach St
PO Box 8
Port Chalmers 9023

Refer Accession No: A417727
Enquiries to: Lyndon Cleaver

Dear Sean

Environment Southland Stewart Island Pilotage Cap Review

At the recent annual Fiordland Pilots meeting held at Environment Southland, 19 July 2018, the Stewart Island pilotage cap risk assessment was raised as an item on the agenda.

A risk assessment was carried out in 2017 at the Auckland Maritime School, looking at whether the current Stewart Island pilotage cap limit set some years ago by Environment Southland was still fit for purpose.

The current pilotage cap limit:

- 70,000 GT
- 250 m LOA

A Fiordland Pilots working group was formed to take part in the risk assessment utilising the Stewart Island model in the ship simulator. The working group consisted of a pilot from Fiordland Pilotage Services, South Port and senior Maritime School lecturer Kees Buckens as the lead.

Simulator trials showed that larger vessels could safely navigate the Stewart Island Pilotage Area under certain conditions. The vessel used for simulation purposes was based on the cruise ship "Sapphire Princess" 116,000 GT, 290 m LOA.

On completion of a successful risk assessment, the working group recommended a pilotage cap limit of up to 100,000 GT for the Stewart Island Pilotage Area.

After careful consideration, Environment Southland has decided that the new pilotage cap limits as detailed below would be appropriate for the Stewart Island Pilotage Area.

- 90,000 GT
- 300 m LOA
- Wind cap < 15 knots
- Sea state cap – 2 m maximum on approaches

Cnr North Rd & Price St, Invercargill | DX No. YX20175 | Private Bag 90116, Invercargill 9840 | 03 211 5115 or 0800 76 88 45 | service@es.govt.nz | www.es.govt.nz

Please amend the Fiordland Pilotage Services, Stewart Island Training Programme and Proficiency Plan for Pilots, and any other necessary standard operating procedures to reflect the new limits, which come into force 30 September 2018, until formally revised by Environment Southland.

Yours sincerely

Lyndon Cleaver
Regional Harbourmaster