



Lake Carriers' Association

For Immediate Release

December 16, 2014

Lakes Limestone Trade Dips in November

CLEVELAND—Shipments of limestone on the Great Lakes totaled 2.7 million tons in November, a decrease of 4.4 percent compared to a year ago. Limestone cargos also trailed the month's long-term average by 9.2 percent. The trade was impacted by weather in November, with many vessels anchoring or taking longer routes to avoid heavy weather.

Year-to-date the limestone trade stands at 25.7 million tons, a decrease of 2.4 percent compared to the same point in 2013. The gap has narrowed considerably since the spring when heavy ice delayed full-scale resumption of limestone loadings. At the end of April, shipments were down 54 percent. Even come the end of July the trade was 6 percent off last year's pace.

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: NOVEMBER 2009-2014 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (net tons)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Average 2009-2013*
U.S. Ports	2,577,680	2,387,464	2,647,669	2,321,402	2,315,464	2,235,899	2,418,000
Canadian Ports	509,875	521,952	610,184	566,567	505,338	460,412	551,011
Total	3,089,564	2,909,416	3,257,853	2,887,969	2,820,802	2,696,311	2,969,011

* Excludes 2009.

GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: YEAR-TO-DATE 2009-2014 AND LONG-TERM AVERAGE (net tons)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Average 2009-2013*
U.S. Ports	17,896,104	21,490,553	21,902,421	21,808,279	22,702,282	21,691,064	21,975,884
Canadian Ports	4,852,605	5,349,696	4,782,136	4,542,427	3,665,435	4,049,863	4,584,924
Total	22,748,709	26,840,249	26,684,557	26,350,706	26,367,717	25,740,927	26,560,808

* Excludes 2009.

U.S. ports: Calcite, MI, Cedarville, MI, Drummond Island, MI, Kellys Island, OH, Marblehead, OH, Port Inland, MI and Presque Isle, MI. Kellys Island ceased shipping in fall 2009. Canadian ports: Bruce Mines, Manitoulin Island and Smelter Bay (all Ontario).

Lake Carriers' Association represents 17 American companies that operate 56 U.S.-flag vessels on the Great Lakes and carry the raw materials that drive the nation's economy: iron ore and fluxstone for the steel industry, aggregate and cement for the construction industry, coal for power generation, as well as salt, sand and grain. Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo per year. More information is available at www.lcaships.com. Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President (440-333-9996).

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Information based on data from knowledgeable sources. However, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Lake Carriers' Association assumes no legal responsibility for the outcome of decisions or commitments made on the basis of this information. This report represents the views of Lake Carriers' Association and may not necessarily represent the views of its individual members.

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