

**Decree No. 2025/25**

## Permit for bunkering liquefied methane with a bunker ship

The Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area

### Having regard to:

- Article 1.1 of the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023
- Article 1.5 of the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023, which provides that the Mayor and Executive Council may impose regulations and restrictions to safeguard the interests associated with such permits
- Article 8.1, Paragraph 1 of the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023, and the decision based thereon, which provides that methanol is designated as a fuel that may only be bunkered with a permit issued by the Mayor and Executive Council
- Article 8.2, Paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023, which provide that minimum requirements can be set for the permit and for the holder of the bunkering permit
- Article 8.3, Paragraphs 2 and 3, of the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023, and the decision based thereon, which provide that the permit holder has a safety management system in place for the fuel liquefied methane of which the proper functioning has been demonstrated by means of a recent audit in accordance with the audit protocol established by the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)
- Article 8.7, Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3, of the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023, and the decision based thereon, which provide that the IAPH bunker checklist must be used when bunkering liquefied methane
- the Decree mandating nautical powers to the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area 2024, issued by the Mayor and Executive Council of the Amsterdam municipality on 9 July 2024 and published on 17 July 2024, on the basis of which the Director of Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area may exercise powers under mandate on behalf of the Mayor and Executive Council of the Amsterdam municipality
- the Beverwijk Mandate Decree regarding the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area 2023, issued by the Mayor and Executive Council of the Beverwijk municipality on 16 July 2024 and published on 4 November 2024, on the basis of which the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area is authorised, under mandate, to exercise powers on behalf of the Mayor and Executive Council of the Beverwijk municipality
- the Velsen municipality Mandate Decree Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area 2023, issued by the Mayor and Executive Council of the Velsen municipality on 30 January 2024 and published on 2 February 2024, on the basis of which the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area is authorised, under mandate, to exercise powers on behalf of the Mayor and Executive Council of the Velsen municipality, and
- the Zaanstad Mandate Decree regarding the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area 2023, issued by the Mayor and Executive Council of the Zaanstad municipality on 7 May 2024 and published on 16 May 2024, on the basis of which the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area is authorised, under mandate, to exercise powers on behalf of the Mayor and Executive Council of the Zaanstad municipality.

### Having considered that:

- On 10 September 2024, the undersigned applied for a permit for the ship-to-ship bunkering of methanol, in relation to which the following relevant data were submitted:
  - Name of the applicant : Brieuc Cornec
  - Company representative of : VShips France SAS
  - With its registered office in : Nantes, France
  - SIRET number : 437 893 159 R.C.S. Nantes

- The applicant has demonstrated the existence of a safety management system, the proper functioning of which was confirmed through a recent audit in the port of Rotterdam, conducted in accordance with an established IAPH audit protocol.
- The bunker ship Gas Agility (IMO number: 9850680) has been registered by the applicant to operate under this permit.
- The bunker ship Gas Agility was included in the recent audit conducted in the Port of Rotterdam in accordance with the IAPH audit protocol, and it has been demonstrated that this vessel can be safely deployed for the delivery of liquified methane.

**Has decided:**

- I. In this Decree, in addition to the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023, the following terms are defined as stated below:
  - a. IAPH: International Association of Ports and Harbors
  - b. Bunker management plan: a plan containing safety and other procedures for the bunkering operation, including those for simultaneous operations (SIMOPS) approved by a classification society
  - c. Bunkering operation: all activities before, during and after the bunkering of LNG that are part of the safety procedure as described in the checklist for bunkering liquefied methane (Liquefied Gas Bunkering Checklist)
  - d. Bunker checklist: the liquefied gas bunkering checklist established by or on behalf of the IAPH and published on the IAPH website
  - e. Notification portal: the digital portal of the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area for making reports or requesting permits at [www.portofamsterdam.com](http://www.portofamsterdam.com)
  - f. Near miss: an undesirable event that under other circumstances could have resulted in an incident
  - g. Reality check: a check during the execution of the bunkering operation to see whether the procedures of the safety management system are effective
  - h. Terminal Information Sheet: part of the bunker checklist containing information for the terminal concerning the berth of the ship to be bunkered
  - i. Safety management system: a system that supports a company in operating effectively and safely in order to meet system and operational safety criteria; a system that ensures good performance with regard to safe operations by the company, or by companies involved in these operations, with respect to the prevention of safety or environmental incidents, and the improvement of the safety and environmental performance; a system supported by ICT, where appropriate.
- II. To grant the applicant a permit for the bunkering of liquefied methane using the bunker ship Gas Agility within the Amsterdam, Beverwijk, Velsen, and Zaanstad municipalities.
- III. This permit also covers bunker ships registered by the applicant of which the registration has been approved in writing by the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area.
- IV. The permit will be granted for the period of 01-07-2025 to 01-07-2030.
- V. The application, including the information submitted in the application form, as referred to in article 8.3 of the Regional Port Byelaws for the North Sea Canal Area 2023, forms part of the permit.
- VI. The applicant, being the permit holder, is responsible for supervising compliance with the permit regulations.
- VII. The permit is subject to the following regulations:

**1. Permitted bunker activities**

- a. This permit relates exclusively to the bunkering of liquefied methane from a bunker ship to another ship.
- b. The bunkering operations take place at a location permitted by or on behalf of the Mayor and Executive Council in accordance with the regulations and restrictions, if any, attached to that location.
- c. The bunkering operations may only be carried out by the bunkering ships for which the applicant has submitted an application and which have subsequently been approved in writing by the harbour master.
- d. The bunkering operations must be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the applicable bunkering checklist.
- e. The bunker ship maintains a continuous listening watch on VHF 14, call sign 'Port Information'.

**2. Other regulations**

- a. The bunker ship has to moor at a berth within its operational area if so designated, unless mooring outside the operational area takes place with the permission of the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area, in response to a request to that effect made by the Skipper or Captain of the bunker ship on VHF channel 14.
- b. Under no circumstances may methane, either in gaseous or liquid form, be released into the environment, either during or outside the bunkering operation.
- c. The bunker checklist must be kept on board the vessels involved in the bunkering operation during and for at least 24 hours after the completion of the bunkering operation.
- d. The permit holder will ensure that no other simultaneous operations take place on the receiving ship during the bunkering operation, unless such activities are specifically mentioned and approved of in a bunker management plan, approved by the classification society, with procedures for simultaneous operations during the bunkering operation.

**3. Notifications**

- a. 24 hours prior to a bunkering operation, Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area must receive advance notification through the port's notification portal. The advance notification contains the items as listed on the notification portal of the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area. Any changes to this notification must be reported to the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area prior to commencement of the operations.
- b. The commencement and completion of the bunkering must be reported to the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area on VHF channel 14 ('Port Information').
- c. Simultaneous operations as referred to under 2.d must be reported in advance by telephone to the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area (+312 0523 4600).
- d. Any events, incidents or near misses must be reported immediately by telephone to the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area (+312 0523 4600).
- e. Potentially imminent danger to public safety must be immediately reported to the emergency services (call the emergency number 112), providing them with the information necessary for their action, as referred to in ADN marginal number 1.4.1.2.

**4. Reporting**

Every six months, a report will be submitted to the Director of Central Nautical Management of the North Sea Canal Area in accordance with a reporting form established by the Director of Central

Nautical Management of the North Sea Canal Area, which can be requested, covering the following topics:

- a. the number of bunkering operations and the bunker ship used for those bunkering operations
- b. the location at which the bunkering operations took place and which ships were bunkered
- c. the flow rate of the liquefied methane delivered during the bunkering operations
- d. the volume (in m<sup>3</sup>) of each bunkering operation
- e. the type of bunker hose used
- f. the number of incidents
- g. the number of near misses.

**5. Closing provisions**

- a. The permit holder must immediately report any changes to the provisions of this permit to the Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area.
- b. The Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area reserves the right to continue to monitor the functioning of the safety management system by means of reality checks during the term of the permit.
- c. The Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area may decide to withdraw or amend the permit if the outcome of the reality check or any other circumstance warrants such action.
- d. The Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area may at any time stop the bunkering operations from the point of view of order, safety and the environment.

Thus established on behalf of the Mayor and Executive Council of Amsterdam  
The Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area

DocuSigned by:  
*Milemba Mateyo*  
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J.H.M. Mateyo

## **Please Note**

*In accordance with the Algemene Wet Bestuursrecht (the Dutch General Administrative Law Act), an interested party can lodge a notice of objection to this decision within six weeks after publication of this decision by submitting a separate notice of objection to the relevant municipal authority. For Amsterdam, the notice of objection must be addressed to: Mayor and Executive Council of Amsterdam, P.O. Box 202, 1000 AE Amsterdam; for Beverwijk to: Mayor and Executive Council of Beverwijk, P.O. Box 450, 1940 AL Beverwijk; for Velsen to: Mayor and Executive Council of Velsen, P.O. Box 465, 1970 AL IJmuiden; or for Zaandam to: Mayor and Executive Council of Zaandam, P.O. Box 2000, 1500 GA Zaandam. The notice of objection must be signed and should contain at least the name and address of the person lodging the objection, the date, a description of the decree against which the objection is being lodged as well as the grounds for objection. If you choose to be represented, we request you to submit an authorisation. The notice of objection has no suspensory effect. If, pending the objection procedure, the situation requires a suspension or immediate relief, an application to grant suspension or provisional relief can be submitted to the judge in preliminary relief proceedings of the Administrative-Law Sector of the Court of Amsterdam, Parnassusweg 226, Postbus 75850, 1070 AW Amsterdam if it concerns this decree of Amsterdam; or to the judge in preliminary relief proceedings of the Administrative-Law Sector of the Court of Haarlem, Stationsplein 80, Postbus 1621, 2003 BR Haarlem if it concerns this decree for Beverwijk, Velsen and Zaanstad. For this procedure, court fees are due. You may lodge your objection online through [www.amsterdam.nl/bezwaar/jb](http://www.amsterdam.nl/bezwaar/jb). For this option you will need a DigiD.*