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April 22, 2014					
FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION					

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DOCKET NO. 14-02

**OCEANIC BRIDGE INTERNATIONAL, INC. – POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF
SECTION 10(a)(1) OF THE SHIPPING ACT OF 1984**

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

On February 21, 2014, the Commission commenced this proceeding by issuing an Order of Investigation and Hearing against respondent Oceanic Bridge International, Inc. (Oceanic Bridge). *Oceanic Bridge International, Inc. – Possible Violations of Section 10(a)(1) of the Shipping Act of 1984* (FMC Feb. 21, 2014) (Order of Investigation and Hearing). The Commission named the Bureau of Enforcement (BOE) as a party to the proceeding. *Id.* at 5. The Order of Investigation and Hearing alleges that Oceanic Bridge violated section 10(a)(1) of the Shipping Act of 1984 (Shipping Act). 46 U.S.C. § 41102(a).

Commission records indicate that the Secretary served the Order of Investigation and Hearing on Oceanic Bridge on February 21, 2014, and that UPS delivered the Order to Oceanic Bridge on February 24, 2014. The Commission's rules require Oceanic Bridge to file its answer or otherwise respond within twenty-five days after the date of service, or by March 18, 2014. *See* 46 C.F.R. § 502.63(b) (revised on Nov. 12, 2012). No answer has been filed to date.

On February 25, 2014, this Office served the Notice of Assignment and an Initial Order. The Initial Order requires the parties to submit a joint status report with a proposed schedule regarding discovery within twenty days of the service of the answer. *Oceanic Bridge – Possible Violations* (ALJ Feb. 25, 2014) (Initial Order). The parties have not filed the required joint status report.

On April 18, 2014, BOE filed a status report. BOE states that on March 14, 2014, it served discovery on Oceanic Bridge with responses required within thirty days. BOE states that Oceanic Bridge has not responded to the discovery. BOE submits that this notice of default and order to show cause should be issued and that if Oceanic Bridge fails to respond adequately, an initial decision on default be entered against Oceanic Bridge. (BOE Status Report.)

Pursuant to Commission Rules:

Failure of a respondent to file an answer to an Order of Investigation and Hearing within the time provided will be deemed to constitute a waiver of the respondent's right to appear and contest the allegations in the Order of Investigation and Hearing and to authorize the presiding officer to enter a decision on default as provided for in 46 CFR 502.65. Well pleaded factual allegations in the Order of Investigation and Hearing not answered or addressed will be deemed to be admitted.

46 C.F.R. § 502.63(c)(4). A party that fails to respond to discovery can be ordered to respond.
46 C.F.R. § 502.210(a).

Oceanic Bridge appears to be in default. There may be some valid reason why it has failed to answer or otherwise respond to the Order of Investigation and Hearing, file a joint status report with BOE, or respond to discovery. Therefore, it will be granted additional time to respond to the proceeding and to show cause why an initial decision on default should not be entered against it. If Oceanic Bridge fails to respond to this Order by May 13, 2014, a default decision may be entered against it, including assessment of a civil penalty and entry of a cease and desist order.

If Oceanic Bridge fails to respond to this Order, BOE may file a motion seeking a decision on default, including evidence supporting its case (for example, the service contracts at issue and bills of lading or other information regarding the shipments at issue); an analysis of all of the relevant legal factors; specific penalties requested and the basis therefore; and a proposed Order.

For the reasons stated above, it is hereby

ORDERED that on or before May 13, 2014, respondent Oceanic Bridge International, Inc.: (1) file an answer to the Order of Investigation and Hearing; and (2) show cause why a decision on default should not be entered against it. If Oceanic Bridge fails to respond, the Bureau of Enforcement may file a motion seeking a decision on default as discussed above. It is

FURTHER ORDERED that on or before May 13, 2014, the Bureau of Enforcement file a statement setting forth its efforts to secure Oceanic Bridge's participation in preparation of the joint status report required by the Initial Order.



Clay G. Guthridge
Administrative Law Judge