

NEWS RELEASE



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**CONGRESSMAN JIM OBERSTAR TO RECEIVE 7th ANNUAL
WATERWAYS COUNCIL, INC. LEADERSHIP SERVICE AWARD**

Washington, DC – Congressman Jim Oberstar (D-MN) will receive the Seventh Annual Waterways Council, Inc. Leadership Service Award on Wednesday, February 27, 2008, at 6 p.m. at the Willard Hotel, Washington, DC. Representative Oberstar will be honored for his steadfast commitment to the improvement of the Nation's ports and commercial inland waterways system over his many years in Congress. Past recipients of the award include Senator Robert C. Byrd (2007); Representative David Hobson (2006); Representative Jerry Costello and Representative John Duncan, Jr. (2005); Senator Kit Bond (2004); Senator John Breaux (2003), and Representative Sonny Callahan (2002).

Congressman Oberstar is Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, which has jurisdiction over all of America's transportation modes, including surface transportation, aviation, and waterways.

Long a champion for infrastructure improvements for the Nation, among Chairman Oberstar's successes was the veto override of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), which became law in November 2007. WRDA authorizes projects that impact waterborne commerce on the nation's rivers and coasts and funds critical habitat restoration projects and environmental projects.

"Waterways Council Inc.'s Leadership Service Award recognizes the commitment of great public servants to our Nation's waterways and port system. The privilege is ours this year to recognize publicly the outstanding leadership of Congressman Oberstar and to honor his commitment to our Nation's critical infrastructure," said Barry Palmer, President/CEO of Waterways Council, Inc.

Waterways Council, Inc. is the national public policy organization advocating a modern and well-maintained national system of ports and inland waterways. The group is supported by waterways carriers, shippers, port authorities, shipping associations and waterways advocacy groups from all regions of the country. Visit www.waterwayscouncil.org.