Table 45.171:
Load Line Requirements for Dry Cargo River Barges Operating on Lake Michigan

	Voyages between Calumet Harbor, IL and:			
	Burns Harbor, IN	**Milwaukee, WI**	**St. Joseph, MI**	**Muskegon, MI**
1) Load line requirement	Conditionally exempted from load line assignment (must meet requirements below)		"Limited service domestic voyage" load line	
2) Where to register/apply	Exempted barges must be registered with the USCG Marine Safety Unit 555A Plainfield Road Willowbrook, IL 60527 Fax: (630) 986-2120		Apply for load line to ABS Americas 16855 Northchase Dr. Houston, TX 77060	
3) Eligible barges	Dry cargo river barges Built and maintained in accordance with ABS River Rules Length-to-depth ratio less than 22 All weathertight and watertight closures are in proper working condition			
	No age limitation	Not more than 10 years old	No age limitation	
4) Freeboard requirement	All barges: freeboard must be at least 24 inches (610 mm) Open hopper barges: coaming height + freeboard must be at least 54 inches (1,372 mm)			
5) Tow limitations	Barges must be unmanned Not more than 5 nautical miles from shore			
	No limit on number of barges	Not more than 3 barges per tow		
6) Cargo limitations	Dry cargoes only. Liquid cargoes, even in drums or tank containers, are prohibited No hazardous materials. HazMats are defined in 46 CFR part 148 and 49 CFR chapter 1, subchapter C			
7) Weather limitations Voyage may not begin; or if these conditions arise during transit, voyage must be discontinued and tow must proceed to shelter	"Small Craft Advisory" conditions or worse (as issued by the NWS Lake Michigan Nearshore Marine Forecast) are not in effect or forecasted for the duration of the transit. Tow master must confirm forecast before departure. Ice conditions do not imperil tow or impede access to shelter			
8) Pre-departure preps:	Required -- as specified in § 45.191			