

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

INTER-DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION

July 1, 2010

The Little Harbor Bridge operates under the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 33, Part 117 “Drawbridge Operation Regulations” (33CFR117). Section 117.699 outlines the specific requirements for the Little Harbor Bridge which are shown below:

§ 117.699 Little Harbor.

The draw of the SR1B bridge, mile 1.0 between New Castle and Rye, shall open on signal from April 1 through October 31 from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. if at least four hours notice is given. At all other times, the draw shall open as soon as possible only for emergencies.

The Bureau of Bridge Maintenance at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation operates the bridge. To comply with Federal Regulations, we have adopted formalized operating procedures for the bridge as follows:

April 1st to October 31st

The bridge will open between the hours of 6:00 am and 10:00 pm on request with at least 4 hours notice. Bridge lifts may be requested by calling the following:

NHDOT Transportation Management Center (TMC) – 603-271-6862.
(This facility is manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

The TMC will log your request and contact an operator for the bridge lift. Do not contact lift bridge operators directly as the available operators will vary from day to day. Communication with the operator at the bridge house does not constitute official notification for a bridge – you must contact the TMC.

November 1st to March 31st

The bridge will only open for vessels in distress

Delays

If a vessel arrives for a scheduled lift and the lift bridge operator is not present, please call the TMC. They will work to provide an operator as quickly as possible and New Hampshire DOT will investigate the cause of the delay and take appropriate action.

If a vessel does not arrive at the bridge within ½ hour of their arranged lift time, the lift bridge operator will leave the bridge and may not be available without an additional 4 hours notice. The ½ hour time may be extended by the lift bridge operator if the vessel is in contact with the bridge and there are valid reasons for additional delay. Vessels that routinely show up outside their scheduled lift window will be reported to the Coast Guard.

Emergencies

The bridge will open as soon as possible for vessels in distress.

Questions should be directed to (603) 271-3667.
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NHDOT Bureau of Bridge Maintenance