



NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 07 – 27th Apr 2017

Subject: Dredging Operations and Temporary Closure of RMC / Stevin Rock Channel

Ref: **Chart 3174, 3404 & Chartlet 3404.**

In connection with the Phase 1 of Saqr Port extension project works, dredging operations are scheduled to commence on 2nd May 2017 for six weeks.

On the 2nd May sinker pipelines will be surface assembled between the project exclusion zone and an area behind the RAK Maritime City breakwater, after which they will be submerged to the seabed. **During the time period 08:00 – 14:00 hrs on 2nd May the access channel to and from Stevin Rock Harbour/RMC will be closed.** Stand-by vessels will be located either side of the pipe to ensure safety and prevent small vessels attempting to cross the sinker pipeline. Advance notice will be given to all Mariners by RMC Port Control on VHF Channel 14 & 69.

Dredging is due to commence on the 4th May within the exclusion zone and dredged materials will be pumped through the sinker pipeline as per the attached chartlet. A minimum of 9m depth (below Chart Datum) will be maintained above sinker lines across the approach channel for the safe passage of vessels into and out of RMC. A marker buoy will be positioned to guide vessels into and out of the channel to avoid the pipe as the clearance reduces from 9m.

The marker buoy, a temporary green buoy, will be placed in position Lat: 25°58.118'N Long: 056°02.738'E and will be lit **"ISO Fl Green 2-3 mile"** to identify the sinker pipelines.

Sinker pipelines will be removed on completion of dredging operations and RMC Channel will again be closed for during the removal of sinker pipelines. Advance notice will be given to all Mariners prior to this event.

Therefore, All Mariners advised to be aware of Project exclusion zone and underwater pipelines while entering and leaving RAK Maritime City / Stevin Rock Harbour and requested to exercise extreme caution when transiting this area:

1. All Vessels/Crafts proceed with minimum speed and navigate with caution.
2. Keep well clear of above exclusion zone and be aware of underwater pipelines.
3. Vessels not to anchor outside anchorage zones.
4. Maintain constant listening watch on VHF Channel 69/14.
5. All movements should be co-ordinated with Mina Saqr / RAK Maritime City Port Control.

Notice will be issued for further updates

**Capt. Michael Magee
Harbour Master
RAK Ports**

Status of previously published notices:

2015: 1

2016: 2

2017: 3, 5, 6

