



Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston Marine Safety Information Bulletin 26-10

Date: 8/31/2026

Time:

AL97 Potential Impacts and Precautions

The Captain of the Port (COTP) is closely monitoring the progression of Invest AL97 currently located in the Gulf of America. Should AL97 strengthen it will likely become a depression or Tropical Storm (TS) Edouard. The COTP strongly encourages all port partners and the maritime community to take prudent measures to ensure a high state of readiness, as track projections show potential impacts on Southeast Texas and surrounding areas. Given Invest AL97's rapid development near the coast, please be aware that the COTP may bypass standard Port Condition timelines and set elevated conditions immediately as forecast data warrants.

All vessels and facilities are encouraged to take preventive measures in advance of the storm. These measures may include:

- Safety measures should be taken to secure missile hazards, nonessential equipment, and loose gear.
- Container stacking protocols should be reviewed and implemented according to predicted sustained winds by the National Weather Service.
- Oil transfer terminals should be prepared to drain all loading arms and hoses of product.
- Ensure vessel moorings are adequate for the predicted wind and surge. Mooring lines are ready to be doubled up with due consideration. Consider leaving port if moorings are not adequate. Spare mooring lines should be inspected and made ready.
- Vessel ballasted to ensure maximum safety.
- All side ports, hatches, portholes, and other openings are closed and secured.
- A continuous radio watch maintained on VHF-FM Channel 16 and designated Vessel Traffic Service frequencies.
- Ensure that anchor and anchoring equipment is in good working condition.
- All Houston-Galveston marine operations should take precautions accordingly as flash flooding can occur.
- Recreational Boaters should stay off the water in heavy weather and ensure moorings are secure.
- **Continue to Monitor the National Weather Service for most up-to-date forecasts.**

Additional guidance regarding AL97 may be issued in the form of further Marine Safety Information Bulletins, Broadcast Notice to Mariners, or other forms as necessary. Please contact the Sector Houston-Galveston Command Duty Officer at (866) 539-8114 if you have any questions or comments.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. D. Rodriguez".

N. D. RODRIGUEZ
Captain, United States Coast Guard
Captain of the Port