

**Memorandum on Construction of Arctic Security Cutters**

*October 8, 2025*

*Memorandum for the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, and the Assistant to the President and Homeland Security Advisor*

*Subject:* Construction of Arctic Security Cutters

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, I hereby direct:

*Section 1. Purpose.* The United States faces an urgent and growing threat in the Arctic region posed by strategic competition, aggressive military posturing, and economic encroachment by foreign adversaries. These actions undermine United States sovereignty; jeopardize critical shipping lanes; and threaten energy, mineral, and national defense interests.

The United States Coast Guard's fleet of icebreakers and Arctic-capable vessels remains insufficient to meet current operational demands and presents a national security risk.

*Sec. 2. Restriction on Construction of Vessels in Foreign Shipyards.* (a) Pursuant to 14 U.S.C. 1151(b) and 10 U.S.C. 8679(b), I find that it is in the national security interest of the United States to construct up to four Arctic Security Cutters (ASCs) abroad. Within 60 days of the date of this memorandum, the United States Coast Guard, through the Secretary of Homeland Security, informed by the Icebreaker Collaboration Effort, shall submit to the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, the Assistant to the President and Homeland Security Advisor, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a plan to phase the construction of ASCs in a manner that promotes the on-shoring of expertise necessary to build follow-on icebreakers domestically.

(b) This memorandum shall not preclude continued investment in the United States industrial base or future domestic construction of ASCs. Rather, it is a time-limited measure to bridge a critical capability gap.

(c) The Director of OMB shall transmit this memorandum to the Congress consistent with 14 U.S.C. 1151(b) and 10 U.S.C. 8679(b)(2).

*Sec. 3. Termination and Sunset Clause.* This authorization shall terminate 4 years from the date of this memorandum unless extended by the President or terminated earlier through appropriate Presidential action.

*Sec. 4. General Provisions.* (a) Nothing in this memorandum shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

- (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or
- (ii) the functions of the Director of OMB relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This memorandum shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This memorandum is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

DONALD J. TRUMP

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

*Categories:* Communications to Federal Agencies : Arctic security cutters, memorandum on construction.

*Subjects:* Arctic security cutter construction, expansion efforts; Homeland Security Adviser; National Security Adviser; Office of Management and Budget; Secretary of Homeland Security; U.S. Coast Guard.

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