

Rock Salt in Sicily

10000/148/1155
July 45

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Pam/af

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION A.C.,
(RAIL DIVISION)
C/o Transportation (br) Main,
C.M.F.

4 October 1945

Tel.: 043236

Ref.: AC/91/In.4

SUBJECT: Salt for export Sicily.

TO : Movements Division In. Sub-Commission HQ AC.

483/13

1. Reference yours 27 September file 403/11/In.3 regarding the movement of 6 wagons of salt daily from Formata Spina and four wagons daily from Mimiani San Cataldo to Porto Empedocle for export.

2. The increased tonnage of salt requested to be moved can easily be handled as far as wagons and motive power are concerned but coal is the governing factor.

3. It is definitely our opinion that the coal allocation for the Sicilian Railways is inadequate and now that the allocation is an Italian government responsibility we are asking the I.S.R. to investigate the possibility of increasing the allowance or curtailing the movement of a lesser important commodity so that the required movement of salt can be assured.

4. The I.S.R. is requested by copy of this letter to advise what can be accomplished and you will be advised of their findings.

5. Our own view is that we cannot expect the interval shipments to be curtailed to any great extent in order that shipments for export might receive preference; so an increase in the coal allowance is the solution.

2170

Flanagan

Chief,

Ref.: AC/91/Tn.4

SUBJECT: Salt for export Sicily.

TO : Movements Division In. Sub-Commission HQ AC.

1. Reference yours 2/ September file 403/11/Tn.3 regarding the movement of 6 wagons of salt daily from Fermana Spina and four wagons daily from Mimiani San Cataldo to Porto Empedocle for export.

2. The increased tonnage of salt requested to be moved can easily be handled as far as wagons and motive power are concerned but coal is the governing factor.

3. It is definitely our opinion that the coal allocation for the Sicilian Railways is inadequate and now that the allocation is an Italian government responsibility we are asking the I.S.R. to investigate the possibility of increasing the allowance or curtailing the movement of a lesser important commodity so that the required movement of salt can be assured.

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2170

Flanagan

Chief,
For Rail Division.

Copy to:- En. Industry Sub-Commission
Movements Div. (Shipping)
I.S.R. Bldg.

E/d

INCOMING MESSAGE
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

FROM Comitato Chimica Milano

2 Oct. 1945

TO HQ Alcom TPTN SC Rome

482/12

UNCLASSIFIED

We beg you to take proper action in order to
ensure continuous rail transportation of rock salt from
the Station of Spina to Porto Empedocle

Dist

Action - In 2

File

See Folio 11

2169

1090

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

INCOMING MESSAGE

TN

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference:

Date/Time of Origin: *OCT NFT*

Message Centre No: *F 9698*

Date Time Rec'd: *OCT 020940A*

Precedence: *ROUTINE*

FROM *COMITATO CHIMICA MILANO*

TO : *HQ ALCOM TPTN SC ROME*

UNCLASSIFIED

Preghiamo vostro interessamento assicurare continuita trasporti ferroviari SALCCEMMA da stazione fermata SPINA a porto EMPEDOCLE.

Dist

Action - Tn 2
File



ACTION

2168

CFC/mb

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION

INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

27 Sept. '45

Tele : 478704

483/11/Tn.3.

SUBJECT : Rock Salt SicilyTO : Rail Division (Tn.4.)

1. Further to this office's letter 483/8/Tn.3. dated 21 Sept. '45.
2. This office is now informed that the production of the mines at COFFARI and ARGENTO can reach 8/9000 tons per month if sufficient wagons are available.
3. This production figure means that 8 wagons daily at FERMATA SPINA, (instead of 4 as at present), and 2 daily at MIMIANI SAN CATALDO, (instead of 2 as at present), would be required for movement to PORTO EMPEDOCLE.
4. Sufficient storage space at PORTO EMPEDOCLE is available to hold stocks awaiting shipment.
5. Will you please confirm that sufficient wagons and motive power to meet the programme as outlined can be made available.

For Chief, Movements Division


C.F. CONSTABLE,
Major, R.E.Copy to : Industry Sub-Commission (Chemicals Division)
Movements Division (Shipping Branch)

2167

1092

MONTECATINI

SOCIETÀ GENERALE PER L'INDUSTRIA MINERARIA E CHIMICA
ANONIMA - CAPITALE VERSATO L. 2.000.000.000

MILANO

Telegr. GABBRO-ROMA
Tel.: 43351-43352-43353

C. C. POSTALE N. 1/4163
C. P. C. DI ROMA
CASSELLA POSTALE 1189

DIREZIONE
PER L'ITALIA CENTRALE E MERIDIONALE
LIAISON OFFICE

RDG/gb

ROMA (30) Sept. 25 1945
VIA ANTONIO SALANDRA, 13

483/10

copy to: -AC/HQ, Industry S/C
Chemicals Division
(Attn. Mr. Dorkovich)
-AC/HQ, Transportation S/C
(Attn. Maj. Lersman)
AC/HQ
Transportation S/C
Movements Division
(Attn. Maj. Constable)

SUBJECT: Rock Salt Movement at Porto Empedocle.

1. Further to our letter dated 21st September on same subject, the contents of which are hereby confirmed.
2. We wish to inform you that the manager of Società Saline Italiane, Avv. Di Rienzo, informs us that in the near future, production of their mines and GOTTARI and ARGENTO mines may easily reach to 6/9000 tons/month, if sufficient railcars will become available.
Sufficient storage space at Porto Empedocle is available.
3. In view of the above, while the four railcars per day at Ferraia Spina already requested, would be sufficient in present conditions, it can be easily fore shadowed that 8 railcars daily at Ferraia Spina and 2 railcars for Argento mine at Mimiani-S. Cataldo station- would be required in the near future.

2168

MONTECATINI
Società Generale per l'Industria Mineraria e Chimica
DIREZIONE PER L'ITALIA CENTRALE E MERIDIONALE
VICE DIRETTORE DI SEDE
VICE DIRETTORE CENTRALE

Requies
11/11

DIREZIONE
PER L'ITALIA CENTRALE E MERIDIONALE
LITAL SOF OFFICE

RDG/gb

ROMA (30) Sept. 25 1945
VIA ANTONIO SALANDRA, 13

copy to: -AC/HQ, Industry S/C
Chemicals Division
(Attn. Mr. Dorkovich)
-AC/HQ, Transportation
S/C
(Attn. Maj. Lermen)

AC/HQ
Transportation S/C
Movements Division
(Attn. Maj. Constable)

SUBJECT: Rock Salt Movement at Porto Empedocle.

1. Further to our letter dated 21st September on same subject, the contents of which are hereby confirmed.
2. We wish to inform you that the manager of Società Saline Italiane, avv. Di Rienzo, informs us that in the near future, production of their mines and COPPARI and ARGENTINO mines may easily reach to 8/9000 tons/month, if sufficient railcars will become available.
Sufficient storage space at Porto Empedocle is available.
3. In view of the above, while the four railcars per day at Ferraata Spina already requested, would be sufficient in present conditions, it can be easily fore shadowed that 8 railcars daily at Ferraata Spina and 2 railcars for Ar Gento mine at Mimiani-S. Cataldo station- would be required in the near future.

2166

MONTECATINI
Società Generale per l'Industria Mineraria e Chimica
DIREZIONE PER L'ITALIA CENTRALE E MERIDIONALE
VICE DIRETTORE CENTRALE
VICE DIRETTORE DI SEDE

Requiert

Nella risposta indicare anche sulla busta l'UFFICIO SCRIVENTE

CFC/mb

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION

INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

21 September 1945

Tele : 478704

483/8/Tn.3.

SUBJECT : Movement of rock salt in SicilyTO : Rail Division (Tn.4.)

1. Further to this office's letter 483/7/Tn.3. dated 23 August and referring to conversation Constable - Jefferies today.
2. It is understood that the movement of rock salt for shipment is seriously hampered by lack of empties at Formosa Spina for rail movement to Porto Empedocle.
3. It is also understood that the coal shortage in the island is affecting rail movement, but it is not known to what extent (if any) it has prejudiced this particular movement.
4. Will you please treat this matter as urgent.

For Chief, Movements Division


C.F. CONSTABLE,
Major, R.E.

Copy to : Movements (Shipping)

2165

LFC/elc

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Tel : 478701

23 August 1945

483/7/Tn 3

SUBJECT : Rock Salt in Sicily

TO : Rail Division (Tn 4)

1. Further to my 483/3/Tn 3 dated 9 August '45.
2. The Industry Sub-Commission state that the Rock Salt is not moving through lack of rail cars.
3. Will you please follow up with the I.R.R. Sicily stressing the importance of this traffic.

For Chief Movements Division

C.R. Worthington
C.R. WORTHINGTON,
Major R.E.

Copy to : Industry Sub-Commission
Movements Division - Shipping Branch

2164

1096

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION

/elo

483/6

Tel: 489081 Ext. 543

VD/hcb

Ref. AC/5616/IND

6 August 1945

SUBJECT : Problems of Transportation

TO : Transportation Sub-Commission

1. In view of the extreme importance of transportation, both by rail and by sea, in the present industrial picture of Italy, particularly in the North, we deem it necessary to summarize briefly as follows the most important problems which are now threatening to jeopardize the industrial programs implemented by this office.

*See vol 2
File 5*
2. Rock salt (Ref. our letters AC/5616/IND, dated 18 and 25 July to Rail Branch). The bottleneck is now the lack of fuel for moving rock salt from the mines to Porto Empedocle by railroad. If this problem be solved, 3000 tons of rock salt a month can be made available at this port, for shipment to consumers in Northern and Central Italy, as per the distribution scheduled already submitted to you. Until the railroad problem is solved, there will be no need for vessels at Porto Empedocle. The importance of this rock salt movement cannot be overestimated, and we ask you to treat this matter as of top priority.

3. Pyrites by sea. Further to previous conversations on this score, we confirm the necessity of assigning small vessels (up to 1,800 tons) to the Portiglióna/Savona trip, as this will considerably speed up loading operations at Portiglióni, and go far towards reaching our target of 29,000 tons for each of the first two months. Nevertheless, larger ships must also be used, as the loading pier has two arms of which one can be used directly for light draft vessels and the other for larger ships, by means of lighters. The loading rate is 150 tons/hour direct from the pier and 300 tons/day via barges. The maximum that big ships can load in one month is, therefore, (300 x 30) 9,000 tons,

2163

- 2 -

leaving a balance of 20,000 tons to be moved by small ships. As the round trip from Portiglioni to Savona and back will probably take one week (4 trips per month), it may be sufficient to assign three small vessels with a total cargo capacity of 5000 tons, to this service between now and September 30, after which date requirements will fall to an average of 13,000 tons per month.

4. Pyrites by Railroad. (Reference the attached Schedule B.2). We have been advised that shipments of pyrites from the Agordo mine (Belluno province) will not be possible for approximately 4 months, owing to heavy war damage to railway bridges. As the whole production of the Calceranica mine will be absorbed by the synthetic ammonia plant at Sinigo, Merano, the remaining plants, viz. Montebelluna, Porto Marghera, S. Giorgio Nogaro, Vicenza, Porto Gruaro, Mira and Cerea will have to be supplied by railroad from the Marenuna (Tuscany) mines. Would you kindly advise us regarding the possibility of adding these tonnages to the present railroad movements schedule.

V. DORKOVICH, Chief, Chemicals D.
for A. H. GLENDINNING
Lt. Colonel
Acting Director
Industry Sub-Commission

Encl.- Schedule B.2

Also letter NI/am dated 7 Aug '45 from Montecatini

2162

Original with Shipping

1098

CHW/gfh

TRANSPORTATION SUB COMMISSION

543

INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

5

9 August 1945

Tel . 478704

483/5/Tn 3

SUBJECT - Rock Salt in Sicily

TO - Rail Division (Tn 4)

1. Further to Movements Division Rail letter 483/2/Tn 3 dated 20 July '45 regarding allocation of wagons for movement of Rock Salt from Spina to Port Sapeo.
2. Industry Sub Commission state that the 4-5 wagons per day should be placed at the following stations for loading -
- 3 wagons at Formata Spina (Agrigento) Station for the firm 'Saline Italiane'
 - 1 wagon at the same station for the firm 'Coffari'
 - 1 wagon at Misiani di S. Cataldo Station (Caltanissetta)
3. The importance of this movement is again stressed by Industry Sub Commission and I should be glad if you would instruct I.S.R. Sicily to do everything possible to see that the daily wagon requirements are met in full.

For Chief Movements Division

CR Washington
C.R. WASHINGTON, Major

Copy to - Industry Sub Commission
Movements Division - Shipping Branch

2161

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION

Tel: Ext. 543

VD/CF/hcb

Ref. AC/5616/IND

25 July 1945

SUBJECT: Movement of Rock Salt in Sicily

TO : Transportation Sub-Commission
Attn: Rail Branch

wa/8 482/4

olio 3 refer

1. Further to our letter AC/5616/IND, dated 18 July 1945.
2. The five 20-ton railroad wagons requested daily for the movement of rock salt to Porto Empedocle in Sicily should be made available as follows:

3 wagons at Fermata Spina (Agrigento) Station for the firm "Saline Italiane"
1 wagon at the same station for the firm "Coffari"
1 wagon at Mimiani di S. Cataldo Station (Caltanissetta)

The distances of these stations from the port are 45 and 70 Kms., respectively.

3. It is understood that it has not been possible as yet to set up this movement owing to a serious shortage of coal for the local railways. It is, therefore, suggested that strong recommendations be made to the appropriate authorities in order to have the coal allocation increased to meet the requirements of this highly important movement.

V. Dorkovich
V. DORKOVICH, Chemical Engineer
for A. H. GLENDINNING
Lt. Colonel
Acting Director
Industry Sub-Commission

Copy to: Transportation S/C (Attn: Capt. Hoyle)
Commerce S/C (Attn: Coal Div.)
Industry S/C (Attn: Mr. J. Richter)

2160

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION

VD/hcb

Tel: Oct. 5/3

18 July 1945

Ref. AC/5616/IND

SUBJECT: Coastwise shipments

483/3

TO : Transportation Sub-Commission
Attn: Shipping Branch

1. Reference yesterday's conversation between Maj. McClure and Mr. Dorkovich.

2. As agreed, we herewith confirm that the movement of salt to Northern Italy temporarily carries as high a priority as pyrites.

3. In view of the above, while concurring with the figures on pyrites as given in your AC/561/80/Tn 3, dated 16 July 1945 to AFHQ, G-5, we wish to point out that shipping should also be set up for the movement of salt, in the following ratio with pyrites:

Breakdown of first 10,000 tons to be ^{moved} used:

5,000	tons	pyrites	ex Portigliani
2,500	"	rock salt	ex Porto Empedocle
2,500	"	solar salt	ex Cagliari
10,000	"		

Breakdown of the next 10,000 tons to be moved:

7,000	tons	pyrites
1,500	"	rock salt
1,500	"	solar salt
10,000	"	

4. All the above salt should be moved through Savona or Genoa, for further movement by rail to the various plants.

5. In this connection, we refer to our letter AC/5616/IND of today to the Rail Branch, whereby we request assistance in obtaining sufficient railroad tonnage from Fermata Spina to Porto Empedocle, in order that the needed amount of rock salt be made available at that port.

2159

V. DORKOVICH, Chemical Engineer
for A. H. GLENDINNING
Lt. Colonel
Acting Director
Industry Sub-Commission

Copy to: Transportation S/C (Attn: Rail Branch)

CRW/elc

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

File

Tel : 478704

20 July 1945

483/2/Tn 3

SUBJECT : Movement of Rock Salt in Sicily

TO : Rail Division (Tn 4)

1. The attached copy of letter received from Industry Sub-Commission is forwarded for your information.
2. Please instruct I.S.R. to furnish the necessary numbers of rail cars asked for in para 2 for the movement of salt from Spina to Porto Empedocle.
3. This salt is produced chiefly for chlorination purposes and it is essential that the movement should continue without hindrance both from a rail and shipping point of view.

For Chief Movements Division

C.R. Worthington
C.R. WORTHINGTON,
Major

Copy to : Industry Sub-Commission
Shipping Branch

2158

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
INDUSTRY SUB-COMMISSION

483/1

Tel: Ext. 543

VD/CP/hcb

Ref. AC/5616/IND

18 July 1945

SUBJECT: Movement of Rock Salt in Sicily

TO : Transportation Sub-Commission
Attn: Rail Branch

✓ W 12/7

1. The rock salt mines near Fermata Spina (prov. Azrigento) in Sicily have a capacity of approximately 3000 tons/month, which could be used to meet the main industrial requirements of Northern Italy.

2. However, it is understood that the bottleneck is the small storage capacity at the mines, viz. only 300 tons. This means that, should sufficient ships be made available to load the whole production at the nearby port of Porto Empedocle, at least 4 to 5 railroad wagons would be needed daily at the Fermata Spina station in order to provide a continuous movement toward the port.

3. We would greatly appreciate your investigating the possibility of improving this situation so as to enable us to plan regular shipments of rock salt from Porto Empedocle to Northern Italy.

4. This matter is of top priority as over a dozen chemical works are now idle through lack of salt.

V. Dorkovich
V. DORKOVICH, Chemical Engineer
for A. H. GLENDINNING
Lt. Colonel
Acting Director
Industry Sub-Commission

Copy to: Transportation S/C (Attn: Capt. Hoyle)
Industry S/C (Attn: Mr. J. Richter)

2157

1103