

Chris Coakley

Chris Coakley is the Vice President of Legislative Affairs for the American Waterways Operators (AWO), the national trade association for the tugboat, towboat, and barge industry. Mr. Coakley has spent almost three years as the manager of federal congressional advocacy and political activity for the association. Prior to his current position, Mr. Coakley spent three years as the AWO Vice President of the Atlantic Region representing Atlantic coastwise tugboat and barge operators in front of federal agencies and state legislatures. During that time, he served as the industry leader of the Coast Guard–AWO Safety Partnership’s Atlantic Region Committee, a workgroup addressing non-regulatory safety, security and environmental best practices. Chris Coakley began his career in public policy over a decade ago on Capitol Hill working with Rep. Richard A. Gephardt (D-MO) in the Office of the Democratic Leader. He has an MA in Transportation Operations and Logistics from George Mason University, Virginia, and a BA in Government from Colby College, Maine.