# Captain charged with manslaughter after Humber estuary ship collision sparks major clean-up



Approximately 12 miles off the coast of East Yorkshire, a collision between the US oil tanker Stena Immaculate and the container ship Solong has resulted in significant damage and a tragic loss of life. Following the incident, a Filipino national perished, and the vessel's captain, Vladimir Motin, a 59-year-old from Primorsky, St Petersburg, has been charged with gross negligence manslaughter.

The accident occurred in the Humber estuary, leading to a fire on the Solong and sparking a considerable clean-up operation along Norfolk's coastline. Debris, including plastic nodules from the cargo ship, began washing ashore, prompting local authorities to deploy giant vacuum cleaners and mobilise dozens of council staff and officials for the extensive clean-up, which spanned several days.

Concerns have been raised by environmental groups regarding the potential impact on marine life and seabirds due to the pollution caused by the incident. The clean-up efforts sought to mitigate these environmental risks effectively.

In the aftermath of the collision, James Wild, the Conservative MP for North West Norfolk, addressed the House of Commons, seeking clarification on the financial implications of the clean-up operation. He inquired whether the government would pursue compensation from the operators of the involved ships for the substantial costs incurred.

In response, Mike Kane, parliamentary under-secretary for the Department for Transport, confirmed that HM Coastguard's counter-pollution and salvage team is actively investigating the possibility of financial redress. Kane stated, "The team are in the process of compiling a comprehensive cost recovery claim following the allision in the Humber estuary. The claim will seek to recover the full costs of the government personnel, response equipment (including air surveillance), and the services of specialist technical advisors used in response to the incident and its aftermath."

The Stena Immaculate has since journeyed to the port of Great Yarmouth, with investigations continuing to assess the broader implications of the collision.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.ne-ifca.gov.uk/Press-Releases/update-on-the-vessel-collision-incident> - This official update from the North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority provides details about the collision between the US-flagged oil tanker Stena Immaculate and the Portuguese-flagged container ship Solong, including the rescue operations and the tragic loss of a crew member from the Solong.
2. <https://www.hmcoastguard.uk/news/updates-vessels-incident-coast-east-yorkshire> - HM Coastguard's updates on the incident off the East Yorkshire coast confirm the collision between the two vessels, the subsequent fires, and the ongoing efforts to assess and mitigate environmental risks.
3. <https://www.worldcargonews.com/news/2025/03/solong-captain-charged-with-manslaughter-stena-immaculate-crew-hailed-for-heroic-fire-response/> - This article reports on the charges of gross negligence manslaughter against the captain of the Solong, Vladimir Motin, and highlights the heroic actions of the Stena Immaculate crew in responding to the fire.
4. <https://www.ft.com/content/66f55f82-5b98-4ce3-8fda-815b0c74478d> - The Financial Times article details the charges against the Russian captain of the Solong, Vladimir Motin, and the environmental concerns following the collision with the Stena Immaculate.
5. <https://www.marinelog.com/legal/safety-and-security/praise-for-heroic-action-of-stena-immaculate-crew/> - This article praises the heroic actions of the Stena Immaculate crew, who activated fire monitors to provide boundary cooling water to adjacent cargo tanks, limiting damage to only the impacted cargo tanks.
6. <https://www.huffingtonpost.es/global/detenido-hombre-homicidio-imprudente-colision-dos-buques-inglaterra.html> - This article reports on the arrest of a 59-year-old man on suspicion of gross negligence manslaughter following the collision between the Stena Immaculate and the Solong in the Humber Estuary.
7. <https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/25128421.north-sea-tanker-crash-compensation-bid-norfolk-clean-up/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data