
Entry into force of the North American Emission Control Area - Further Information

Notice to all Owners, Ship Operators and Managers, Charterers, Masters and Officers of Merchant Ships, Ship Builders, Ship Repairers, Port Authorities, Engine Manufacturers, Fuel Suppliers, Operators of Fixed and Floating Platforms and Drilling Rigs

This notice should be read with MIN 429

This MIN expires 20 May 2013

Summary

- This notice reminds operators about the entry into force of the North American Emissions Control Area and clarifies the requirements for vessels calling at Canadian ports.

1. Background

- 1.1 As noted in MIN 429 from 1 August 2011 North American waters (both east and west coasts of the US and Canada) became SO_x and NO_x emission control areas. A 12 month exemption from the requirements of the ECA applied from this date. The full requirements of the ECA come into force on 1 August 2012.
- 1.2 The Canadian authorities have indicated that due to delays in domestic legal process they will not have in place the full package of domestic legislation when the North American ECA enters fully into force.
- 1.3 This notice clarifies the application of the revised (2008) Annex VI of MARPOL for UK flagged vessels trading within the North American ECA area and particularly to Canadian ports.

2. Entry into Force of the North American ECA

- 2.1 The 12 month exemption from the requirements of the North American ECA will lapse on 1 August 2012 for all areas within the ECA
- 2.2 From this point ships will be required to comply with the requirements of the ECA as outlined in Resolution MEPC.202(62) and MARPOL Annex VI.
- 2.3 Regardless of the enforcement position of individual states the Resolution and associated international convention are in force and the ECA requirements will be applicable to vessels operating in the region.

2.4 For vessels operating to Canadian ports the authorities have issued guidance for vessels which is available at:

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/bulletins-2012-03-eng.htm>

2.5 The UK is a party to MARPOL VI and UK flagged vessels are expected to comply with the prevailing international requirements for the ECA noting the additional guidance found in the Canadian notice.

More Information

Environmental Policy
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Bay 2/01
Spring Place
105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG

Tel : +44 (0) 23 8032 9199
Fax : +44 (0) 23 8032 9204
e-mail: environment@mcga.gov.uk

General Inquiries: infoline@mcga.gov.uk

MCA Website Address: www.dft.gov.uk/mca

File Ref: MS 034/029/0146

Published: August 2012
Please note that all addresses and
telephone numbers are correct at time of publishing



© Crown Copyright 2012

Safer Lives, Safer Ships, Cleaner Seas

*An executive agency of the
Department for
Transport*