

Fall 2008



# Environmental Standards Update



## New Interim Rule for Regulating Dry Cargo Residues on the Great Lakes

By LT Heather St. Pierre, USCG

On September 29, 2008, the U.S. Coast Guard published an Interim Rule at 73 Fed. Reg. 56492 regulating the discharge of dry cargo residue (DCR) on the Great Lakes.

This rule amends the 'zero discharge' provision of 33 CFR §151.66 and continues to allow self-propelled vessels, and barges that are part of an integrated tug and barge unit, to discharge DCR in limited areas of the Great Lakes.

The rule adopts the Coast Guard Ninth District's 1997 Interim Enforcement Policy (IEP) that allowed only non-toxic, non-hazardous DCR to be discharged, but adds new sensitive and protected areas where discharges are now prohibited or further restricted.

Geographic restrictions and allowances are outlined in Table 151.66(b) of the regulations. The Coast Guard has created a *Guide for DCR Discharge Allowances, Restrictions and Prohibitions* that can be found on our website at [http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg522/cg5224/dry\\_cargo.asp](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg522/cg5224/dry_cargo.asp).

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Dry cargo residue discharge operation on Lake Superior. (USCG photo)

## Welcome Aboard to Division Chief

CDR Gary Croot recently reported aboard as the new Chief of the Environmental Standards Division.

CDR Croot arrives from Marine Safety Unit Duluth, MN, where he served as Commanding Officer and Captain of the Port/Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (COTP/OCMI).

His previous assignments include serving as Executive Officer at Marine Safety Office Mobile, AL, during Hurricane Ivan, and Supervisor at Marine Safety Detachment Massena, NY, at the entrance to the St. Lawrence Seaway.

We look forward to making his tour a success!

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<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg522/cg5224/>

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Another new requirement of this rule is mandatory record-keeping and reporting. Effective as of September 29, 2008, bulk dry cargo carriers are now required to keep records of each loading and unloading operation, any voluntary DCR control measures that were used by the ship or facility associated with the loading or unloading process, and the discharge event itself.

These records must be kept on the Bulk Dry Cargo Residue Reporting Form (CG-33), which is available for download at [http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg522/cg5224/dry\\_cargo.asp](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg522/cg5224/dry_cargo.asp), and maintained on board the vessel for at least two years. These records must be provided to the Coast Guard at least on a quarterly basis, no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, April, July and October.

Initial reports for this regulation are due on January 15, 2009, and can be e-mailed to [DCRRecordkeeping@uscg.mil](mailto:DCRRecordkeeping@uscg.mil), or submitted by fax or mail. Additional information on these reporting methods can be found in the Interim Rule or on our website as listed above.

The Coast Guard is also encouraging dry bulk cargo carriers and facilities to continue to use control measures or voluntarily employ control measures, if control measures are currently not in use, to help reduce the amount of DCR discharged.

These control measures include using enclosed or troughed conveyors, conveyor skirts and radio communications.

A complete list of these control measures can be found on the Bulk Dry Cargo Residue Reporting Form (CG-33) or in our Interim Rule. Bulk dry cargo carriers are also encouraged to provide the Coast Guard information on control measures not currently listed on Form CG-33 that may be effective in reducing the amount of DCR discharged.

Comments can be submitted online at <http://www.regulations.gov> under docket number USCG-2004-19621 or by mail (as described in 73 Fed. Reg. 56492) and must be received by January 15, 2009.

For additional information and documents on this rule, including the Interim Rule, our Environmental Impact Statement,



Cargo residue on deck after coal loading operation. (USCG photo)

As this is an interim rule, the Coast Guard is also requesting public comments on the need for and feasibility of additional conditions that might be imposed on future DCR discharges, such as mandating use of control measures or additional adjustments to those areas where discharges are allowed, restricted or prohibited.

and the Dry Cargo Residue Reporting Form (CG-33), please visit our website at [http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg522/cg5224/dry\\_cargo.asp](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg522/cg5224/dry_cargo.asp).

If you have additional questions, contact LT Heather St. Pierre at 202-372-1432 or at [Heather.J.St.Pierre@uscg.mil](mailto:Heather.J.St.Pierre@uscg.mil).

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# U.S. Ratifies Air Pollution Standards at 58th Marine Environment Protection Committee

By LCDR Brian Moore, USCG



The International Maritime Organization's Marine Environment Protection Committee convened for its 58th session on October 6 - 10, 2008, in London.

## Air Pollution from Ships

The committee adopted revisions to MARPOL Annex VI and the NO<sub>x</sub> Technical Code 2008, which will enter into force on 1 July 2010.

"Implementation of these IMO standards will be a very important part of a coordinated national strategy to reduce emissions from ocean-going vessels," said RADM Sally Brice-O'Hara, Deputy Commandant for Operations, who deposited the U. S. instrument of ratification.

Areas that can demonstrate an air quality need may require ships to use the most advanced technology-forcing engines and lowest polluting fuels. In these Emission Control Areas, ships will be required to use engines that meet stringent Tier III emission control standards.

On Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, the committee drafted guidelines for Energy Efficiency Design and Operations and scheduled a second GHG intersessional working group in 2009. The Committee is discussing use of market-based measures to address GHG emissions from ships but decided only to continue the discussion at MEPC 59.

## Harmful Aquatic Organisms in Ballast Water

The committee adopted the remaining two of the original fifteen convention guidelines, for ballast water sampling (G2) and approving ballast water management systems (G8).

Three ballast water management systems were granted basic approval: TG Ballastcleaner and TG Environmentalguard System (Japan), Greenship's BWMS (Netherlands), and Ecochlor® BWTS (Germany).

Two systems received final approval: the Electro-Clean™ System (Korea) and the Ocean-Saver® BWMS (Norway). A total of four systems have now received final approval, and three systems have received type approval.

Sixteen states, representing 14.24% of merchant tonnage, have now ratified the Ballast Water Management Convention.

## Recycling of Ships

The Committee approved a draft convention for circulation with a view towards adoption at the scheduled diplomatic conference in Hong Kong in May 2009. The draft includes an unresolved position on availability of compliant recycling capacity. The committee established a correspondence group to develop guidelines on inventorying of hazardous materials and for safe and environmentally sound ship recycling prior to the conference.

## Anti-Fouling Systems Convention

The AFS convention entered into force in September 2008. The committee reviewed draft guidelines on best management practices for removal of anti-fouling systems developed under the London Convention and Protocol, and invited the group to provide a final version to MEPC 59.

## Other Issues

At this session, the committee considered a draft IMO guidance document for minimizing the risk of ship strikes with cetaceans and chartered a correspondence group to conduct further analysis and development for MEPC 59.

The U.S.-submitted work program item on ship-generated noise and its potential adverse impact on marine life was accepted with a target completion date in three to four sessions. The proposal to adopt guidelines for the prevention of pollution from small craft and adoption of an international Certificate of Competence were turned down as not viable.

The committee invited members to submit proposals on guidelines for prevention of pollution from recreational and small vessels for MEPC 59.

U.S. citizens may request copies of the MEPC 58 Final Report from our website at <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg522/cg5224/imomepc.asp>.

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## Shipboard Technology Evaluation Program Reaches Next STEP

By LCDR Brian Moore, USCG

The Coast Guard has approved the first applications to install and operate innovative Ballast Water Management Systems, and the vessels' operators are now using these prototype systems to meet their ballast water management requirements.

In addition to simplifying vessel logistics, these prototypes will generate data on their ability to kill or remove aquatic nuisance species before ballast water is released into U.S. waters.

The first three STEP applicants are the cruise ship CORAL PRINCESS, with a filtration and UV treatment system developed by Hyde Marine Systems; and the integrated tug and barge ITB MOKU PAHU and containership ATLANTIC COMPASS, both with a chlorine dioxide system developed by Ecochlor Inc.

A fourth ship, the bulk oil tanker S/R AMERICAN PROGRESS, plans to use SevernTrentDeNora's BalPure-2000 system, and is nearing completion of its administrative clearance process. Public comments will be accepted through the website <http://www.regulations.gov>, under docket USCG-2008-0126.



S/R AMERICAN PROGRESS, the newest vessel to apply for STEP participation. (SeaRiver Maritime)

The Coast Guard is developing a streamlined STEP approval process, and continues to welcome new applicants to the program.

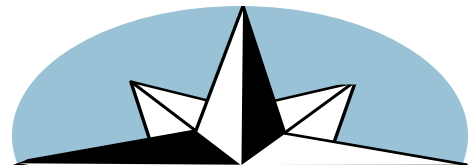
## Marine Debris Report Published

By David Major, USCG

The National Research Council has published "Tackling Marine Debris in the 21st Century," a report on the effectiveness of international and national measures to prevent and reduce marine debris and its impacts. The report is available at [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12486](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12486).

## Upcoming Meetings

- 📅 **December 2-3, 2008**  
**Great Lakes Panel on ANS**  
 Ann Arbor, MI  
<http://www.glc.org/ans/panel.html>
- 📅 **January 14-15, 2009**  
**Pacific Ballast Water Group**  
 Seattle, WA  
<http://www.psmfc.org/ballast/>
- 📅 **April 19-23, 2009**  
**International Conference on Aquatic Nuisance Species**  
 (Early registration by 1 Feb 2009)  
 Montreal, Quebec, Canada  
<http://www.icaiss.org/>



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