



December 30, 2015

Subject: Alaska's Large Cruise Ship Registration and Reporting¹

Dear Sir or Madam:

Thank you for choosing Alaska as your destination. As a courtesy, and to assist you in complying with our state laws and regulations, we have combined several legal and regulatory requirements into a single process, which we describe in this letter. They include,

1. Vessel Registration (AS 46.03.461 and 18 AAC 69.010),
2. Environmental and Ocean Ranger fees (A.S. 46.03.480, 46.03.476 and 46.03.480(d)),
3. Wastewater Discharge and Required Plans (AS 46.03.462, AS 46.03.465, 18 AAC 69.015, 18 AAC 69.025-040, and 18 AAC 69.065),
4. Vessel Position Reporting (AS 46.03.465(b))

Registration

On or before March 1, 2016, you must register each of your commercial passenger vessels that will operate in Alaska marine waters in 2016 using our online registration system. The only registration document that you must mail to us is the original notarized vessel owner or operator's signature page. The online registration application generates the signature page document at the end of the process.

Registration Links

Instructions: http://dec.alaska.gov/water/OASysHelp/attachments/CPVEC_reg_step_by_step.pdf.

Documents: http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/regletter.htm.

Environmental and Ocean Ranger Fees

On or before June 1, 2016 you must pay your two fees. Commercial passenger vessels must pay a Commercial Passenger Vessel Environmental Compliance (CPVEC) fee, and an Ocean Ranger fee. The CPVEC Fee is based on passenger capacity and the number of voyages. The Ocean Ranger fee is a \$4 per berth, per voyage fee. The online registration process will tell you what your fee charges are. Invoices will be sent to the billing address listed in the vessel registration.

Wastewater Discharge and Required Plans

Information must be provided regarding your intent to discharge during the registration process. If you intend to discharge wastewater into the marine waters of the state², you must request coverage under the 2014 Large Commercial Passenger Vessel Wastewater Discharge General Permit. Information on the General Permit may be found at: http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/gp/2014gp.html Permittees are

¹ Over 250 passengers as determined by the number of lower berths.

² Marine waters of the state are generally defined as three nautical miles from coast and all waters of the Alexander Archipelago (Inside Passage). For specific latitude and longitudes, see Alaska statute 46.03.490.

required to meet all sampling and reporting requirements of the General Permit. You may change the registered discharge status at any time before the season begins by contacting the CPVEC program.

You must submit a sampling Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP,) or inform us that you will use the most recently DEC approved Cruise Line International Association – North West and Canada Quality Assurance Project Plan. The attached description of required plans document explains some of the requirements of the required plans.

Vessel Position Reporting

It is the operator's responsibility to provide hourly positional information to ADEC (AS 46.03.465(b)). ADEC cannot recommend a contractor to provide this service. In 2015, all operators contracted with the Marine Exchange of Alaska (907-463-2607). If an alternative source of vessel tracking data is used, it must be approved by CPVEC.

Ocean Rangers

Ocean Rangers will ride aboard or conduct in-port inspections. CPVEC's contractor for this program (Crowley) will contact vessel operators about purchasing berths and scheduling in-port inspections.

Other Requirements

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's (ADEC) Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) Division is in a different division than the Cruise Ship Program and has its own separate requirements. Links to this information are on the attached "Useful Websites" page.

In addition to ADEC's large cruise ship requirements, federal agencies (EPA and U.S. Coast Guard) have requirements for discharging wastewater in Alaska waters. It is the responsibility of vessel owners or operators to register with the appropriate federal agencies. U.S. Coast Guard Sector Juneau can be contacted at 907-463-2450. <http://homeport.uscg.mil/juneau>. EPA Vessel General Permit Information can be found at: http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/home.cfm?program_id=350

Required Address for Submissions

Submit all CPVEC registration correspondence, support documents, and reports to:

Commercial Passenger Vessel Environmental Compliance Program
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
410 Willoughby Avenue, Suite 303
P.O. Box 111800
Juneau, AK 99811-1800,
or by email to: DEC.WQ.Cruise@alaska.gov

Please feel free to contact me at (907) 465-5138 or by e-mail (edward.white@alaska.gov) to discuss CPVEC program requirements.

We appreciate your cooperation and willingness to work with us in the past and look forward to working with you during 2016.

Sincerely,



Edward White
Environmental Program Specialist III

Table 1. Schedule and Description of CPVEC Requirements

Document	Due Date
PRE-SEASON Requirements:	
Registration with original notarized signature page submitted	March 1, 2016
Quality Assurance Project Plan (sampling QA/ QC Plan)	March 1, 2016
Non-hazardous Solid Waste Offloading and Disposal Plan	March 1, 2016
Hazardous Waste and Substance Offloading Plan	March 1, 2016
Environmental Compliance Fee and Ocean Ranger Fee	June 1, 2016
An NOI to request discharge under the Wastewater Discharge General Permit. (if discharging wastewater in Alaskan waters)	30 days prior to discharge.
Vessel Specific Sampling Plan (VSSP) (if discharging wastewater in Alaskan waters)	A 2016 VSSP is required 21 days before sampling.
Sampler qualifications for approval	Due 21 days prior to the first sample event.
Requirements while IN ALASKAN WATERS:	
Reporting of hourly vessel location	Reporting while in Alaska waters
Reporting of daily discharge records (logs)	Five days after each calendar month of operation in Alaska.
Discharge Monitoring Report (only required if operating under the General Permit). Note this is required even if no discharges occurred.	A Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) is due by the 21 st day of the following month.
Sample reports and electronic sample data	21 days after analytical testing is completed
Ocean Rangers	N/A – initiated by DEC
POST-SEASON Requirements:	
Voyage Report and Deviation Report to document any changes to the number of voyages or deviations from waste plans	November 15, 2016

Useful websites

The CPVEC Program website: http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/index.htm

CPVEC Cruise Ship owner and operator page:

http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/industrylinks.htm

CPVEC program regulations (18 AAC 69) and Alaska Statute (46.03.460- 46.03.490):

http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/Law_and_Regs/index.htm

EPA's Vessel Discharge General Permit: http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/home.cfm?program_id=350

Visible Emissions (Opacity Requirements)

Air Quality regulations 18 AAC 50: http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/Law_and_Regs/index.htm

Cruise Ship Excess Emission Form under Cruise Ship Excess Emissions Self Report:

http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/industrylinks.htm

Oil Spill Prevention Requirements (COFR and C-Plan)

Non-tank Vessel Certificate of Financial Responsibility (COFR) program and Contingency Plan (C-Plan) information can be found at the following websites:

COFR and C-Plan INFO: <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ipp/marine-vessels/>

A blank Alaska COFR application form is available on-line at:

<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ipp/docs/ntapplic.pdf>

A blank Alaska C-Plan application form is available on-line at: <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ipp/marine-vessels/apply-contingency-plan.htm>

Statutes and Regulations regarding Oil Spill Prevention requirements can be found at:

http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/statutes_regs.htm#ipp