



January 6, 2017

Subject: Alaska's Commercial Passenger Vessel Annual Registration and Reporting Requirements
Small Passenger Vessels¹

Dear Sir or Madam:

Thank you for choosing Alaska as a destination for your vessel.

The Commercial Passenger Vessel Environmental Compliance (CPVEC) Program was established by Alaska Statute (AS) 46.03.460 – 46.03.490 and 18 AAC 69. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Division of Water administers this program, which addresses wastewater discharges, hazardous wastes and solid wastes, and directly monitors air opacity of vessels operating in Alaska waters.

Alaska law requires annual commercial passenger vessel registration (AS 46.03.461 and 18 AAC 69.010). The registration will be conducted via an on-line registration system that allows vessel owners or operators to attach supporting documentation.

Under the CPVEC program, vessel owners or operators who intend to operate in Alaska marine waters in 2017 are required to submit the documents and pay the fee listed in Table 1.

Alaska law requires that the owner or operator of a registered small commercial passenger vessel (50 to 249 overnight passengers) not discharge treated sewage, graywater and other wastewater in Alaska waters unless the vessel applies for a permit to discharge or applies for alternative terms and conditions (Best Management Practices plan). More information can be found on the discharge options webpage http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/small_vessel_dischargeoptions.htm.

In 2016, the law that allows BMPs expired, however the Department is working on a solution. The Department is not requiring a permit at this time, and will notify all operators when this is resolved. Until then the Department is allowing operation under BMPs to proceed.

The ADEC website at http://dec.alaska.gov/water/OASysHelp/attachments/CPVEC_reg_step_by_step.pdf includes a complete set of instructions "Registration Step by Step." The 2017 on-line registration includes calculations of the per voyage² Environmental Compliance Fee for commercial passenger vessels pursuant to AS 46.03.480

The only document the vessel owner or operator must send through the mail is the original notarized vessel owner or operator's signature page. This document is generated at the end of the registration process.

¹ "small commercial passenger vessel" means a commercial passenger vessel that provides overnight accommodations for 50 to 249 passengers for hire, determined with reference to the number of lower berths.

² A voyage is defined as "vessel trip to or from one or more ports of call in the state with the majority of passengers for hire completing the entire vessel trip; a vessel trip involving stops at more than one port of call is considered a single voyage so long as the majority of passengers for hire complete the entire trip." (AS 46.03.490(17))

Registration documents are available both in PDF and Word versions, and are available at the ADEC website http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/regletter.htm or on request.

Table 1. Schedule and Description of CPVEC Requirements

Document	Authority	Due Date	How Accomplished
PRE-SEASON Requirements:			
Registration	AS 46.03.461, 18 AAC 69.010	March 1, 2017	Online at http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/regletter.htm
Owner/operator original notarized signature page generated during the registration process	AS 46.03.461(b), 18 AAC 69.010(b)	March 1, 2017	Mail to the address listed below
Quality Assurance Project Plan (QA/QC or QAPP) (if vessel will discharge to the marine waters of the state) ³	AS 46.03.465(b), 18 AAC 69.025	March 1, 2017 if not already operating under a valid approved and current QAPP.	Use an existing QAPP “as is”, modify an existing QAPP, or submit a new QAPP ⁴
Best Management Practices Plan (BMP) ⁵ (if vessel will discharge under alternative terms and conditions)	AS 46.03.462(c)	March 1, 2017 if a current approved plan is not already in place and remains active until the end of the season.	Send to DEC.WQ.Cruise@alaska.gov or mail to address below.
Non-hazardous Solid Waste Offloading and Disposal Plan	AS 46.03.475(e)(1), 18 AAC 69.035	March 1, 2017	Send to DEC.WQ.Cruise@alaska.gov Requirements found at http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/regletter.htm and are also attached.
Hazardous Waste and Substance Offloading Plan	AS 46.03.475(e)(2), 18 AAC 69.040	March 1, 2017	Send to DEC.WQ.Cruise@alaska.gov Requirements found at http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/regletter.htm and are also attached.
Environmental Compliance Fee	AS 46.03.480, 18 AAC 69.015	June 1, 2017	DEC will invoice the registered billing contact.
Vessel Specific Sampling Plan (VSSP) (if wastewater will be discharged in Alaska)	18 AAC 69.030 AS 46.03.465 (b)	A 2017 VSSP is required 21 days before sampling.	Mail to address below. Blank form found at http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/regletter.htm
Requirements while IN ALASKAN WATERS:			
Sample report	18 AAC 69.055	21 days after analytical testing is completed.	Send to DEC.WQ.Cruise@alaska.gov
POST-SEASON Requirements:			
Voyage Report and Deviation Report to document any changes to the number of voyages or deviations from waste plans	18 AAC 69.015 , 18 AAC 69.065	November 15, 2017	Send to DEC.WQ.Cruise@alaska.gov or mail to address below

³ 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.

⁴ Please contact the Cruise Ship Program for a list of alternatives.

⁵ An operator may submit a plan for alternative terms and conditions (a BMP). If this plan is not submitted, a permit to discharge is needed which meets the terms and conditions of Alaska statute 46.03.462(b).

Submit all CPVEC mailed registration correspondence, support documents, and reports not submitted in the registration process 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

Documents (except for the notarized registration signature page) may instead be submitted via email to: DEC.WQ.Cruise@alaska.gov

The Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) Program is separate from the Cruise Ship Program at ADEC and has separate requirements from the Cruise Ship Program. Several links to this information are on the attached "Useful Websites" page.

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 2017.

Sincerely,



Edward White
Environmental Program Specialist III

Attachments: [Registration Step by Step](#)
Useful websites
Description of Required Plans

Useful websites

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

CPVEC Cruise Ship owner and operator page:

http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise_ships/operatorlinks.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 program and Contingency Plan (C-Plan) information can be found at the following websites:

Financial Responsibility information: <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/fr/index.htm>

Nontank Plan information: <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/nontank.htm>

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

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