



January 9, 2020

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

Dear Cruise Ship Operator:

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 online 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 2020 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). The BMP alternative was recently re-implemented and regulations are being updated to fix citations, however it is expected that the text of the regulations will stay the same. More information can be found on the discharge options webpage <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise-ships/cruise-smallship/>

The ADEC 2020 online registration program includes step-by-step instructions. Online registration includes calculations of the per voyage² Environmental Compliance Fee for commercial passenger vessels pursuant to AS 46.03.480

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))

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.

Registration documents are available both in PDF and Word versions and are available on request or online at <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise-ships/cruise-registration/>.

The ADEC Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) Program is separate from the Cruise Ship Program and has separate requirements. Links to this information is included at the end of this letter.

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
P.O. Box 111800
Juneau, AK 99811-1800
or by email to: DEC.WQ.Cruise@alaska.gov

Please feel free to contact Albert Faure at (907) 465-5279 (albert.faure@alaska.gov) or Johnny Zutz at (907) 465-5317 (johnny.zutz@alaska.gov) with questions on CPVEC program requirements.

We appreciate your cooperation and willingness to work with us in the past and look forward to working with you during 2020.

Sincerely,

Denise Wiltse

Denise Wiltse
Acting Program Manager
Commercial Passenger Vessel Environmental Compliance Program

Attachments: Description of Required Plans
ADEC Cruise Ship Excess Emission Notification Form

Table 1. Schedule and Description of CPVEC Requirements

Document	Authority	Due Date
PRE-SEASON Requirements:		
Registration	AS46.03.461, 18 AAC 69.010	March 1, 2020
Owner/operator original notarized signature page generated during the registration process	AS 46.03.461(b) 18 AAC 69.010(b)	March 1, 2020
Non-hazardous Solid Waste Offloading and Disposal Plan	AS 46.03.475(e)(1), 18 AAC 69.035	March 1, 2020
Hazardous Waste and Substance Offloading Plan	AS 46.03.475(e)(2), 18 AAC 69.040	March 1, 2020
Requirements if Discharging IN ALASKAN WATERS:		
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, 2020 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(k)	March 1, 2020 if a current approved plan is not already in place and remains active until the end of the season.
Vessel Specific Sampling Plan (VSSP)	18 AAC 69.030 AS46.03.465 (b)	A 2020 VSSP is required 21 days before sampling.
Sample report	18 AAC 69.055	21 days after analytical testing is completed.
OTHER Requirements:		
Environmental Compliance Fee	AS46.03.480, 18 AAC 69.015	June 1, 2020
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, 2020

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).

CPVEC Links

The CPVEC Program website: <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise-ships/>

CPVEC Cruise Ship owner/operator page:

<http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise-ships/cruise-operator/>

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

<http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise-ships/laws-regs/>

EPA VGP

EPA's Vessel Discharge General Permit: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/vessels-vgp>

Visible Emissions (Opacity Requirements)

Air Quality regulations 18 AAC 50: <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise-ships/laws-regs/>

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

<http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise-ships/cruise-air/>

SPAR – Oil Spill Prevention Requirements (COFR and C-Plan)

Cruise Ships are categorized as Nontank Vessels⁶ (NTVs)

<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr.aspx>

NTV requirements for operations in AK waters:

- Certificate of Financial Responsibility (COFR):
<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/contingency-plans/financial-responsibility/apply-for-fr>
- Contingency Plan (C-Plan):
<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/contingency-plans>

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

<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/ppr/regulations-guidance>

⁶ Self-propelled vessels over 400 gross registered tons, AS 46.04.900 (12)