



January 21, 2021

Subject: Alaska Registration and Reporting for Large Commercial Passenger Vessels¹

Dear Cruise Ship Operator:

Thank you for choosing Alaska as your destination. To assist you in complying with our state laws and regulations² we have combined several legal requirements into a single process, described below:

1. Vessel Registration (AS 46.03.461 and 18 AAC 69.010),
2. Environmental and Ocean Ranger Fees (AS 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

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) requires that vessels register online by March 1, 2021. Operators must register each commercial passenger vessel that they intend to operate in Alaska marine waters in 2021.

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

Due to the current uncertainties surrounding the 2021 season, if any registration changes need to be made after March 1, please contact the Commercial Passenger Vessel Environmental Compliance (CPVEC) Program. The CPVEC Program will assist you with changes on a case-by-case basis.

Registration will ask if you plan to discharge wastewater into the marine waters of the state³. You may change the registered discharge status at any time before the season begins by contacting the CPVEC Program. Discharging vessels will need to either 1) submit a sampling Quality Assurance Project Plan

¹ Large commercial passenger vessels provide overnight accommodations for 250 or more passengers, determined by the number of lower berths (see Alaska Statute, AS 46.03.490 (7)).

² Alaska Statute (AS) are laws and Alaska Administrative Code (AAC) are state regulations.

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 AS 46.03.490 (18).

(QAPP) or 2) inform us that you will use the most recently ADEC approved Cruise Line International Association QAPP.

All vessels, regardless of discharge intent, are required to submit solid waste and hazardous waste disposal plans. These plans can be uploaded during registration or sent separately.

Environmental and Ocean Ranger Fees

On or before June 1, 2021 operators of commercial passenger vessels must pay a CPVEC fee and an Ocean Ranger fee. The CPVEC Fee is based on passenger capacity (lower berths) and the number of voyages. The Ocean Ranger fee is a separate \$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

Any vessel intending to discharge must request coverage under the 2014 Large Commercial Passenger Vessel Wastewater Discharge General Permit. Required sampling and reporting requirements are outlined in the General Permit. Please refer to the attached Description of Required Plans for information regarding the required plans. Information on the General Permit may be found at: <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/cruise-ships/cruise-general-permit/>

General Permit Extension

ADEC is in the process of extending the 2014 General Permit (2013DB0004) to cover the 2021 cruise ship season. Additional information will be sent out once that process is completed.

Vessels intending to discharge in Alaska waters in 2021 must either 1) have a 2019 or 2020 Notice of Intent (NOI) on file with ADEC or 2) submit a new NOI. The NOI acts as the application under 18 AAC 15.110 for permit coverage during the GP extension period. Please update and check that the Notice of Intent on file with ADEC accurately reflects current treatment equipment and operations.

If your vessel is intending to discharge in Alaska waters in 2021 and your vessel does not have a 2019 or 2020 Notice of Intent (NOI) on file with ADEC, please contact the CPVEC Program.

Vessel Position Reporting

Vessel operators must provide hourly positional information to ADEC (AS 46.03.465(b)). ADEC cannot recommend a contractor to provide this service. In 2018, all operators contracted with the Marine Exchange of Alaska (907-463-2607). Other sources of vessel tracking must be approved by ADEC.

Other Requirements

The ADEC Spill Prevention and Response (SPAR) Division and the Air Quality Program are in different divisions than the Cruise Ship Program and have their 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 907-463-2980. <https://www.pacificarea.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/District-17/17th-District-Units/Sector-Juneau/>

EPA Vessel General Permit Information can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/vessels-vgp>

Required Address for Submissions

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

DEC.WQ.Cruise@alaska.gov; or mail to

ADEC-CPVEC, ATTN: Cruise Ship Program

P.O. Box 111800

Juneau, AK 99811-1800

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 2021.

Sincerely,

Sarah Mutter

Sarah Mutter

Program Lead

Commercial Passenger Vessel Environmental Compliance Program

Attachments:

Description of Required Plans (Table 1)

Table 1. CPVEC Requirements and Schedule: Large Cruise Ships

Document	Due Date
Registration Requirements:	
Registration with original notarized signature page submitted	March 1, 2021
Nonhazardous Solid Waste Offloading and Disposal Plan (Plan requirements at 18 AAC 69.035)	March 1, 2021
Hazardous Waste and Hazardous Substance Offloading Plan (Plan requirements at 18 AAC 69.040)	March 1, 2021
Environmental Compliance Fee and Ocean Ranger Fee	June 1, 2021
Requirements while IN ALASKAN WATERS:	
Reporting of hourly vessel location	Upon request
Requirements if discharging IN ALASKAN WATERS:	
NOI to request discharge under the Wastewater Discharge General Permit.	For the 2021 season, please contact the CPVEC Program if you do not have a 2019 or 2020 NOI on file with ADEC.
Wastewater Sampling QAPP (Quality Assurance Project Plan; Requirements at 18 AAC 69.025)	March 1, 2021
Sampler qualifications for approval	Due 21 days prior to the first sample event
Vessel Specific Sampling Plan (VSSP) – Approved by ADEC (Requirements at 18 AAC 69.030)	Approved VSSP required 21 days before sampling
Discharge Monitoring Report (monthly submittal, all GP vessels regardless of actual discharge)	Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) is due by the 21 st day of the following month.
Effluent sample reports and electronic sample data (Typically twice per month)	21 days after analytical testing is completed
Reporting of daily discharge logs, discharge records (monthly submittal)	Discharge logs are due by the 5 th day of the following month.
POST-SEASON Requirements:	
Voyage Report: written or electronic vessel voyage report (highlight deviations if different from registration count)	November 15, 2021
Deviation Report for	November 15, 2021
Additional payment/Refund request (for added/deleted voyages): regulations require a signed refund request.	November 15, 2021

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/>

Visible Emissions (Opacity Requirements) ⁴

The Air Quality Program website: <https://dec.alaska.gov/air/air-compliance/>

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 Vessels⁵ (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>

⁴ All items relating to monitoring and reporting of air emissions/opacity items moved to ADEC, Division of Air Quality

⁵ Self-propelled vessels over 400 gross registered tons, AS 46.04.900 (12)