



Technical Circular

No.: 30/2015

Date: 16th November 2015

To Whomsoever it may concern

Subject: Sludge Handling in ECA.

1. Use of incinerator to incinerate sludge generated on board ship is permitted as per the regulation 16 of MARPOL Annex VI, including in the ECA.
2. However, it should be noted that individual regional government may have their own specific requirements. Examples of such prohibitions are:
 - The Helsinki Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area, 1992 which requires contracting parties to prohibit any incineration of ship generated wastes on board ships, operating in their territorial seas.
 - California Environmental Protection Agency prohibits onboard incineration between the California coast and the Three Nautical Mile Line as shown on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Nautical Charts.
3. Also as per Regulation 16 of MARPOL Annex VI, shipboard incineration of sewage sludge and sludge oil generated during normal operation of a ship may also take place in the main or auxiliary power plant or boilers, but in those cases, shall not take place inside ports, harbours and estuaries.
4. According to MEPC.219 (63) - Guidelines for the implementation of MARPOL Annex V- Permission for incineration of the vessel's sludge in ECA areas also depends on domestic regulations and states that” *in general shipboard incineration should not be undertaken when the ship is in port or at offshore terminal. Some ports may have domestic laws that specify additional air emission restrictions, particularly those near high population areas. The use of a shipboard incinerator may require permission from the port authority concerned.*”
5. Operation of incinerators within ECA must be agreed with individual port States and affected coastal States in all cases.

Enclosure:

1. Nil.



. This Technical Circular and the material contained in it is provided only for the purpose of supplying current information to the reader and not as an advice to be relied upon by any person.
. While we have taken utmost care to be as factual as possible, readers/ users are advised to verify the exact text and content of the Regulation from the original source/ issuing Authority.

Whilst the utmost care has been taken in the compilation of the Technical Information, neither Indian Register of Shipping, its affiliates and subsidiaries if any, nor any of its directors, officers, employees or agents assume any responsibility and shall not be liable to any person for any loss, damage or expense caused in any manner whatsoever by reliance on the information in this document.