



US EPA Webcast

Information on Proposed NPDES General Permits for Vessels



Webcast: July 2, 2008

One and one half-hour audio Web broadcast

Eastern: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Central: 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Mountain: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Pacific: 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Session Description:

As a result of a U.S. District Court ruling currently under appeal, vessel owners or operators whose discharges have previously been exempt from Clean Water Act (CWA) permit requirements for the last 35 years will need to obtain CWA permit coverage as of September 30, 2008.

On June 17th the Environmental Protection Agency released for public comment two proposed [draft] general permits under the Act that will cover discharges incidental to normal operation of commercial and recreational vessels. Based on agency estimates, as many as 99,000 commercial vessels and about 18 million recreational boats could be affected. All ships and boats with discharges incidental to their normal operations into waters of the United States, except for vessels of the United States Armed Forces, would be subject to these requirements.

The commercial and large recreational vessel general permit (VGP) would cover all commercial vessels and those recreational vessels 79 feet or longer. The recreational vessel permit (RGP) would cover all recreational vessels measuring less than 79 feet in length.

During this webcast, you will learn:

- Why EPA is proposing to issue these permits.
- Who and what discharges are potentially covered by these permits.
- The proposed effluent limits for ballast water and other types of discharges such as deck runoff, bilgewater, and graywater.
- What the permits would require for corrective actions, inspections and monitoring requirements as well as recordkeeping and reporting requirements.
- What you have to do to obtain coverage under one of these permits.
- How to submit comments on the permits to the EPA docket.

There will be time allocated for a question and answer session.

Speakers: Deborah Nagle, US EPA
Dr. Ryan Albert, US EPA

Registration: You must register in advance to attend this webcast. Visit the NPDES Web site at www.epa.gov/npdes/training to register. **Note: Your computer must have the capability of playing sound in order to attend this webcast.**

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