

Canadian Arctic and Norwegian Sea to become Emission Control Areas

Arctic waters under Canadian sovereignty and jurisdiction (Canadian Arctic) and the Norwegian Sea have been designated as Emission Control Areas (ECAs) for nitrogen oxides (NOx) and sulphur oxides (SOx) to prevent, reduce and control emissions of NOx, SOx and particulate matter (PM) from ships. Adoption at MEPC.82 in October 2024 and the earliest entry-into-force date on 1 March 2026 (16 months after adoption date).

The forthcoming HFO ban in the Arctic waters will enter into force on 1 July 2024, however the HFO ban does not regulate any air pollutant emissions such as NOx and there are still options to comply with higher sulphur fuels that do not meet the standards of an ECA, so the designation of ECA is a complement to the HFO ban.

Canadian Arctic ECA

With adoption at MEPC.82, the following requirements take effect;

Sulphur oxides (SOx) and Particulate Matter (PM)

A prohibition of using fuel with a sulphur content greater than 0.10% m/m for vessels operating within the ECA will take effect from 1 March 2027.

Nitrogen oxides (NOx):

Vessels operating in the Canadian Arctic ECA and constructed (keel laying date) on or after 1 January 2025 to comply with NOx Tier III limits as specified in MARPOL Annex VI.



Norwegian Sea ECA

With adoption at MEPC.82, the following requirements take effect;

Sulphur oxides (SOx) and Particulate Matter (PM)

The 0.10% m/m fuel sulphur content requirement takes effect from 1 March 2027.

Nitrogen oxides (NOx):

Tier III requirements will apply to ships constructed on or after 1 March 2026 and operating in the Norwegian Sea ECA.

Ships constructed on or after 1 March 2026 will mean a ship:

- for which the building contract is placed on or after 1 March 2026; or
- In the absence of a building contract, ships the keels of which are laid or which are at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 September 2026; or
- The delivery of which is on or after 1 March 2030.

MARPOL Annex VI

Reg.13 specifies the **Nitrogen Oxides (NOx)** emission standards for marine diesel engines installed on board ships.

Reg.14 sets out control measures to reduce emissions of **Sulphur Oxides (SOx)** and **Particulate Matter (PM)** from ships.

Clean Ship Scandinavia AB - Your partner for sustainable shipping!

We assist ship owners, designers and yards in complying with current and future regulations, whilst at the same time increase the environmental awareness and understanding of environmental management systems.

In respect of the serious legal and environmental issues related to discharge at sea we can provide

- Consulting services
- Cost-effective and compliant solutions
- Environmental expertise.

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