

# Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI

Notice to: Ship Owners/ Managers/ Operators/ Surveyors/ Auditors

URC26002 06 January 2026

Notice is hereby given that the amendments to **MARPOL Annex VI**, adopted under Resolution **MEPC.392(82)**, will enter into force on **01 March 2026**.

These amendments designate two new Emission Control Areas (ECAs) for Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), Sulphur Oxides (SOx), and Particulate Matter (PM):

1. **The Canadian Arctic Emission Control Area**
2. **The Norwegian Sea Emission Control Area**

## Implementation Schedule & Requirements

Operators should carefully note that while the amendment enters into force in 2026, the application dates for SOx and NOx differ based on the pollutant type and ship construction date.

The implementation schedule is summarized below:

Requirement Type	Canadian Arctic ECA	Norwegian Sea ECA
Entry into Force	01 March 2026	01 March 2026
SOx & PM Limits apply from: <i>(0.10% m/m limit)</i>	<b>01 March 2027</b> <i>(12-month grace period)</i>	<b>01 March 2027</b> <i>(12-month grace period)</i>
NOx Tier III applies to: <i>(Ships constructed on/after)</i>	<b>01 January 2025</b>	<b>01 March 2026*</b> <i>(See specific criteria below)</i>

## Technical Requirements

### A. Sulphur Oxides (SOx) and Particulate Matter

From **01 March 2027**, the sulphur content of fuel oil used on board ships operating within these ECAs must not exceed **0.10% m/m**.

- **Exemption:** Ships are exempt from this requirement for the first 12 months following the entry into force (i.e., between 01 March 2026 and 28 February 2027).
- **Equivalents:** Compliance may also be achieved using an approved Exhaust Gas Cleaning System (EGCS/Scrubber).

### B. Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) – Tier III Standards

Marine diesel engines with a power output exceeding **130 kW** installed on ships constructed (keel laid) on or after the applicable dates must comply with **NOx Tier III** emission limits when operating in these areas.

- **For Canadian Arctic ECA:** Applies to ships constructed on or after **01 January 2025**.

- **For Norwegian Sea ECA:** Applies to ships meeting the following construction criteria:
  - Building contract placed on or after **01 March 2026**; OR
  - In the absence of a contract, keel laid on or after **01 September 2026**; OR
  - Delivery is on or after **01 March 2030**.

#### **Actions Required by Ship Owners and Managers**

To ensure compliance, the following actions are recommended:

1. **IAPP Certificate Update:** Review and update the International Air Pollution Prevention (IAPP) Certificate and its Supplement to reflect the new ECA designations.
2. **Fuel Changeover Procedures:** Develop and implement documented procedures for fuel changeover to ensure compliant fuel (max 0.10% S) is used upon entering the ECAs from **01 March 2027** onwards.
3. **Logbook Entries:** Ensure that the date, time, and position of the ship when entering or leaving the ECA, along with the volume of low-sulphur fuel oils in each tank, are recorded in the logbook.
4. **Tier III Verification:** For vessels constructed on or after the dates mentioned in Section 3.B, ensure valid EIAPP Certificates and NOx Technical Files are available demonstrating Tier III compliance.

For further clarification or assistance regarding IAPP re-issuance, please contact the URACOS Technical Department.

Detailed information regarding URACOS circulars, including updates on regulations and guidelines, can be found at <https://uracos.org/circulars>.

Best Regards

UNITED REGISTRATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF SERVICES

**ANNEX 1****RESOLUTION MEPC.392(82)  
(adopted on 4 October 2024)****AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEX OF THE PROTOCOL OF 1997 TO AMEND THE  
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS,  
1973, AS MODIFIED BY THE PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING THERETO****Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI****(Designation of the Canadian Arctic and the Norwegian Sea as Emission Control Areas  
for Nitrogen Oxides, Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter, as appropriate)**

THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE,

RECALLING Article 38(a) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Marine Environment Protection Committee conferred upon it by international conventions for the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships,

RECALLING ALSO article 16 of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocols of 1978 and 1997 relating thereto (MARPOL), which specifies the amendment procedure and confers upon the appropriate body of the Organization the function of considering amendments thereto for adoption by the Parties,

HAVING CONSIDERED, at its eighty-second session, proposed amendments to MARPOL Annex VI concerning the designation of the Canadian Arctic and the Norwegian Sea as Emission Control Areas for Nitrogen Oxides, Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter, as appropriate, which were circulated in accordance with article 16(2)(a) of MARPOL,

1 ADOPTS, in accordance with article 16(2)(d) of MARPOL, amendments to MARPOL Annex VI, the text of which is set out in the annex to the present resolution;

2 DETERMINES, in accordance with articles 16(2)(f)(ii) and (iii) of MARPOL, that the amendments shall be deemed to have been accepted on 1 September 2025 unless prior to that date not less than one third of the Parties or Parties the combined merchant fleets of which constitute not less than 50% of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant fleet have communicated to the Organization their objection to the amendments;

3 INVITES the Parties to note that, in accordance with article 16(2)(g)(ii) of MARPOL, the said amendments shall enter into force on 1 March 2026 upon their acceptance in accordance with paragraph 2 above;

4 REQUESTS the Secretary-General, for the purposes of article 16(2)(e) of MARPOL, to transmit certified copies of the present resolution and the text of the amendments contained in the annex to all Parties to MARPOL;

5 ALSO REQUESTS the Secretary-General to transmit copies of the present resolution and its annex to Members of the Organization which are not Parties to MARPOL.

ANNEX

**AMENDMENTS TO MARPOL ANNEX VI**

**(Designation of the Canadian Arctic and the Norwegian Sea as Emission Control Areas for Nitrogen Oxides, Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter, as appropriate)**

**ANNEX VI**

**REGULATIONS FOR THE PREVENTION OF AIR POLLUTION FROM SHIPS**

**Regulation 13**

*Nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>)*

**Tier III**

1 A new sub-paragraph .3 is added to regulation 13.5.1.2 as follows:

".3 1 March 2026 and is operating in the Norwegian Sea Emission Control Area. For the Norwegian Sea Emission Control Area, "ship constructed on or after 1 March 2026" means a ship:

- .1 for which the building contract is placed on or after 1 March 2026; or
- .2 in the absence of a building contract, the keel of which is laid or which is at a similar stage of construction on or after 1 September 2026; or
- .3 the delivery of which is on or after 1 March 2030."

2 Between paragraphs 5.1.2 and 5.1.3, the word "when" is added.

3 At the end of regulation 13.5.1.3, ":" is replaced with ";" and a new sub-paragraph .1 is added as follows:

".1 that ship is constructed on or after 1 January 2025 and is operating in the Canadian Arctic Emission Control Area."

**Emission control area**

4 At the end of sub-paragraph.3 of regulation 13.6, the word "and" is deleted and at the end of sub-paragraph .4, ":" is replaced with ";".

5 New sub-paragraphs .5 and .6 are added to regulation 13.6 as follows:

- ".5 the Canadian Arctic Emission Control area, which means the area described by the coordinates provided in appendix VII to this Annex; and
- ".6 the Norwegian Sea as defined in regulation 13.9.4 of Annex II of the present Convention."

**Regulation 14***Sulphur oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>) and particulate matter***Requirements within emission control areas**

6 At the end of sub-paragraph .4 of regulation 14.3, the word "and" is deleted and, at the end of sub-paragraph .5, "." is replaced by ";".

7 New sub-paragraphs .6 and .7 of regulation 14.3 as follows:

- ".6 the Canadian Arctic Emission Control area, which means the area described by the coordinates provided in appendix VII to this Annex; and
- .7 the Norwegian Sea as defined in regulation 13.9.4 of Annex II of the present Convention."

**Appendix I***Form of International Air Pollution Prevention (IAPP) Certificate  
(regulation 8)***SUPPLEMENT TO INTERNATIONAL AIR POLLUTION PREVENTION CERTIFICATE  
(IAPP CERTIFICATE)****RECORD OF CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT**

7 Section 1.3 of the Supplement to the International Air Pollution Prevention Certificate is replaced by the following:

"1.3 Date of build

1.3.1 Date of building contract (dd/mm/yyyy) .....

1.3.2 Date on which keel was laid or ship was at a similar stage of construction (dd/mm/yyyy) .....

1.3.3 Date of delivery (dd/mm/yyyy) ....."

**Appendix VII***Emission control areas  
(regulations 13.6 and 14.3)*

8 Paragraph 1 is replaced by the following:

"1 The boundaries of emission control areas designated under regulations 13.6 and 14.3, other than the Baltic Sea, the North Sea, and the Norwegian Sea areas, are set forth in this appendix."

9 New paragraph 5 is added after paragraph 4 as follows:

"5 The Canadian Arctic area comprises two segments:

.1 starting at the Yukon mainland at 68°54'.00 N, 137°0'.00 W; following the coordinates listed below and ending at the north coast of Hans Island at 80°49'.91 N, 66°27'.40 W, connected by geodesic lines connecting the following coordinates in World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) datum:

<u>POINT</u>	<u>LATITUDE</u>	<u>LONGITUDE</u>
1	68°54'.00 N	137°0'.00 W
2	72°56'.58 N	137°0'.00 W
3	73°0'.42 N	136°21'.72 W
4	73°21'.72 N	136°20'.46 W
5	73°56'.34 N	136°57'.60 W
6	74°30'.18 N	137°13'.08 W
7	75°3'.42 N	137°7'.20 W
8	75°49'.26 N	136°32'.04 W
9	76°42'.18 N	136°57'.06 W
10	77°28'.26 N	136°34'.74 W
11	78°7'.26 N	135°28'.50 W
12	78°39'.72 N	133°44'.88 W
13	79°29'.58 N	131°24'.96 W
14	79°53'.16 N	129°32'.22 W
15	80°31'.44 N	127°33'.48 W
16	81°54'.36 N	118°36'.24 W
17	82°16'.32 N	116°28'.98 W
18	82°52'.86 N	115°29'.46 W
19	83°54'.54 N	112°7'.20 W
20	85°46'.14 N	97°16'.86 W
21	86°9'.78 N	89°14'.46 W
22	86°22'.56 N	78°59'.58 W
23	86°19'.18 N	60°10'.17 W
24	85°38'.92 N	58°10'.58 W
25	85°22'.29 N	57°59'.22 W
26	85°12'.04 N	57°54'.68 W
27	84°49'.56 N	57°13'.28 W
28	84°22'.15 N	56°43'.09 W
29	84°17'.32 N	56°35'.78 W
30	84°11'.05 N	56°29'.53 W
31	83°10'.79 N	57°0'.21 W
32	83°4'.29 N	57°27'.78 W
33	83°0'.95 N	57°32'.72 W
34	82°44'.71 N	58°0'.38 W
35	82°42'.57 N	58°6'.78 W
36	82°40'.69 N	58°11'.74 W
37	82°34'.95 N	58°25'.30 W
38	82°31'.25 N	58°38'.56 W
39	82°27'.52 N	58°50'.12 W

<u>POINT</u>	<u>LATITUDE</u>	<u>LONGITUDE</u>
40	82°22'.87 N	59°2'.00 W
41	82°20'.26 N	59°21'.38 W
42	82°18'.54 N	59°32'.25 W
43	82°17'.22 N	59°41'.31 W
44	82°14'.41 N	59°56'.06 W
45	82°12'.06 N	60°2'.23 W
46	81°51'.67 N	62°9'.60 W
47	81°17'.89 N	64°8'.73 W
48	80°50'.48 N	66°15'.33 W
49	80°50'.10 N	66°26'.97 W
50	80°49'.91 N	66°27'.40 W

.2 continuing from the south coast of Hans Island at 80°49'.29 N, 66°27'.04 W, following the coordinates listed below, and ending at the coast of Newfoundland and Labrador at 60°0'.00 N, 64°9'.60 W, connected by geodesic lines connecting the following coordinates in World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) datum:

<u>POINT</u>	<u>LATITUDE</u>	<u>LONGITUDE</u>
51	80°49'.29 N	66°27'.04 W
52	80°49'.19 N	66°26'.57 W
53	80°45'.43 N	67°3'.99 W
54	80°26'.16 N	68°14'.39 W
55	80°1'.79 N	68°46'.99 W
56	79°40'.38 N	69°4'.68 W
57	78°48'.09 N	72°52'.36 W
58	78°25'.05 N	73°45'.66 W
59	77°30'.83 N	74°38'.24 W
60	76°43'.47 N	74°56'.49 W
61	75°0'.00 N	73°16'.07 W
62	74°50'.67 N	73°2'.71 W
63	74°44'.20 N	72°52'.86 W
64	74°28'.67 N	71°45'.72 W
65	74°24'.02 N	71°25'.67 W
66	74°12'.42 N	70°33'.06 W
67	74°10'.03 N	70°23'.12 W
68	74°7'.50 N	70°12'.16 W
69	74°6'.15 N	70°6'.69 W
70	74°2'.53 N	69°51'.43 W
71	74°2'.25 N	69°50'.33 W
72	73°57'.54 N	69°31'.02 W
73	73°52'.27 N	69°10'.88 W
74	73°46'.73 N	68°51'.14 W
75	73°46'.17 N	68°48'.81 W

<u>POINT</u>	<u>LATITUDE</u>	<u>LONGITUDE</u>
76	73°41'.77 N	68°29'.65 W
77	73°37'.91 N	68°12'.34 W
78	73°36'.51 N	68°5'.42 W
79	73°31'.14 N	67°15'.52 W
80	73°25'.90 N	66°24'.99 W
81	73°18'.48 N	66°7'.91 W
82	72°50'.89 N	65°7'.52 W
83	72°47'.70 N	65°0'.63 W
84	72°45'.76 N	64°58'.22 W
85	72°43'.78 N	64°54'.27 W
86	72°36'.40 N	64°38'.74 W
87	72°30'.58 N	64°26'.04 W
88	72°24'.89 N	64°13'.11 W
89	72°10'.96 N	63°40'.55 W
90	72°6'.33 N	63°30'.42 W
91	72°1'.65 N	63°20'.73 W
92	71°52'.98 N	63°3'.86 W
93	71°47'.21 N	62°52'.67 W
94	71°44'.71 N	62°49'.41 W
95	71°32'.90 N	62°33'.35 W
96	71°31'.73 N	62°31'.66 W
97	71°29'.39 N	62°28'.99 W
98	71°25'.93 N	62°25'.37 W
99	71°18'.98 N	62°17'.45 W
100	71°12'.10 N	62°8'.98 W
101	70°51'.84 N	61°42'.53 W
102	70°48'.17 N	61°37'.62 W
103	70°35'.55 N	61°20'.28 W
104	70°33'.07 N	61°17'.10 W
105	70°13'.48 N	61°10'.49 W
106	70°8'.83 N	61°8'.67 W
107	70°7'.55 N	61°7'.92 W
108	70°1'.68 N	61°4'.08 W
109	69°55'.82 N	60°59'.85 W
110	69°55'.27 N	60°59'.41 W
111	69°49'.82 N	60°57'.99 W
112	69°29'.41 N	60°51'.36 W
113	69°12'.82 N	60°27'.40 W
114	69°10'.24 N	60°23'.47 W
115	69°6'.79 N	60°18'.33 W
116	69°0'.88 N	60°8'.99 W
117	68°56'.83 N	60°2'.21 W
118	68°38'.02 N	59°14'.43 W
119	68°37'.86 N	59°14'.01 W

<u>POINT</u>	<u>LATITUDE</u>	<u>LONGITUDE</u>
120	68°34'.02 N	59°4'.46 W
121	68°32'.88 N	59°1'.49 W
122	68°25'.25 N	58°42'.06 W
123	68°21'.67 N	58°38'.64 W
124	68°16'.07 N	58°33'.75 W
125	68°7'.40 N	58°26'.93 W
126	68°6'.87 N	58°26'.58 W
127	68°4'.26 N	58°24'.69 W
128	68°1'.89 N	58°23'.15 W
129	67°56'.94 N	58°19'.62 W
130	67°44'.25 N	58°9'.79 W
131	67°39'.77 N	58°6'.05 W
132	67°35'.33 N	58°2'.07 W
133	67°30'.76 N	57°57'.66 W
134	67°29'.16 N	57°56'.00 W
135	67°28'.21 N	57°55'.01 W
136	67°27'.27 N	57°54'.57 W
137	67°21'.52 N	57°52'.35 W
138	66°49'.47 N	57°42'.84 W
139	66°41'.71 N	57°40'.35 W
140	66°37'.88 N	57°39'.45 W
141	66°36'.02 N	57°38'.99 W
142	66°30'.27 N	57°38'.04 W
143	66°24'.50 N	57°37'.56 W
144	66°18'.68 N	57°37'.55 W
145	66°12'.84 N	57°38'.01 W
146	66°3'.50 N	57°39'.45 W
147	65°57'.62 N	57°39'.93 W
148	65°57'.50 N	57°39'.93 W
149	65°51'.75 N	57°40'.44 W
150	65°50'.81 N	57°40'.46 W
151	65°37'.59 N	57°41'.74 W
152	65°34'.74 N	57°42'.18 W
153	65°23'.33 N	57°44'.83 W
154	65°18'.08 N	57°45'.70 W
155	65°14'.52 N	57°44'.99 W
156	65°11'.49 N	57°44'.22 W
157	65°8'.79 N	57°43'.69 W
158	65°6'.04 N	57°43'.95 W
159	64°12'.06 N	57°48'.09 W
160	64°4'.20 N	57°49'.01 W
161	63°57'.36 N	57°53'.40 W
162	63°52'.57 N	57°56'.46 W
163	63°50'.05 N	57°57'.01 W

<u>POINT</u>	<u>LATITUDE</u>	<u>LONGITUDE</u>
164	63°43'.99 N	57°58'.60 W
165	63°37'.16 N	58°1'.00 W
166	63°35'.02 N	58°1'.86 W
167	63°28'.62 N	57°59'.62 W
168	63°22'.86 N	57°57'.29 W
169	62°47'.14 N	57°40'.83 W
170	62°11'.35 N	57°25'.12 W
171	62°3'.47 N	57°22'.15 W
172	62°2'.23 N	57°21'.62 W
173	62°0'.39 N	57°20'.92 W
174	61°24'.74 N	57°16'.16 W
175	61°10'.14 N	57°38'.70 W
176	60°43'.56 N	57°17'.64 W
177	60°15'.36 N	57°4'.56 W
178	60°0'.00 N	56°43'.02 W
179	60°0'.00 N	64°9'.60 W

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