

MARPOL Annex VI – Prevention of air pollution from ships

The New Zealand Government will become party to Annex VI of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) by late 2021.

MARPOL Annex VI seeks to address:

- the impact of air pollution from shipping activities on human health and environments, and
- the impacts of emissions from shipping activities on climate change and ozone layer depletion.

There are eight key regulations relating to emission controls.

Shipboard incineration

What is shipboard incineration?

Annex VI defines shipboard incineration as “the incineration of wastes or other matters on board a ship, if such wastes or other matter were generated during the normal operation of that ship”.

What shipboard incinerators does this apply to?

The general requirements potentially apply to all ships.

The requirement for shipboard incinerators to be certified applies to shipboard incinerators:

- on a ship constructed on or after 1 January 2000
- installed on or after 1 January 2000
- of polyvinyl chlorides (PVCs).

Shipboard incinerators on ships that only travel domestically may be excluded from the requirement to hold a certificate if the incinerator was installed before 19 May 2005. NZ is considering whether to apply this exclusion.

New Zealand is also considering how to align the requirements with existing legislation, for example, the Resource Management Act.

What does Annex VI require in relation to shipboard incineration?

Regulation 16 sets out general requirements related to shipboard incineration. These include:

- requiring incineration to be carried out in equipment designed for that purpose.
- prohibiting certain substances from being incinerated
- providing for sewage sludge or sludge oil to be incinerated in the main or auxiliary power plant or boilers, but not within ports, harbours or estuaries.

Annex VI also sets out the requirements for certain shipboard incinerators to be certified. These incinerators must be designed and built to an approved standard and undergo testing to ensure that they operate within specified limits.

Where can I get more info?

Search for shipboard incineration on the International Maritime Organization website.

www.imo.org

What do you think?

- What impact will meeting the requirements have on your operation?
- What concerns do you have about meeting the requirements?
- Is there anything else you need to know?

What are your views?

What would be the impact of including or excluding ships on domestic voyages where the incinerator was installed before 19 May 2005?

Contact us

You can contact us with any comments or questions at MARPOLAnnexVIProject@maritimenz.govt.nz