

Republic of Vanuatu Maritime Bulletin

Boiler/Economizer Washdown

We have received enquiries related to boiler/economizer washdown water (soot drain) discharges and whether or not these are considered to be "operational waste" for the purposes of MARPOL Annex V, as amended by MEPC.201(62).

In the absence of an interpretation from IMO or IACS, VMSL's position is as follows:

The discharge of boiler/economizer washdown water (soot drains), where essential to the operation of the ship, should be treated in the same manner as the examples listed in para. 1.7.3 of MEPC.219(63) and should not be considered 'operational waste' as defined in MARPOL V/Reg.1.12 and as such there should be no obligation to handle such discharges as "garbage."

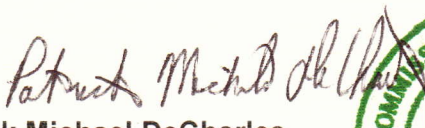
Notwithstanding the above, it is the responsibility of the "Company"*, to ensure that this interpretation is in agreement by individual port States.

The above opinion is of course subject to change should IMO, IACS or PSC MoUs communicate a different interpretation.

* "Company" is the entity responsible for the management of the ship in accordance with the ISM Code or Ship Management Contract. For ships that the ISM Code is not applicable, the Company is the Managing Owner in accordance with Cap 131 of the Vanuatu Acts and Regulations.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Matthew Bonvento".

Submitted by:
Matthew Bonvento
Senior Manager Safety, Security, Quality and Regulatory Compliance

Approved by: 
Captain Patrick Michael DeCharles
by the direction of the
Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs
The Republic of Vanuatu

