

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 08 – 2021

Peel Ports Group – Open Loop Scrubbers Questionnaire

Notice is hereby given that: the Peel Ports Group is gathering information from vessels using their ports in regards to the use of vessel exhaust scrubber systems.

From 1 January 2020, the limit for sulphur in fuel oil used on board ships operating outside designated emission control areas is reduced to 0.50% m/m (mass by mass). All ships must meet this requirement of MARPOL Annex VI, regulation 14, regardless of their size, or whether they are on an international or domestic voyage. Some vessels limit their air pollution by installing exhaust gas cleaning systems, also known as “scrubbers”. The use of such systems is allowed under Regulation 4 of MARPOL Annex VI as long as they do not impair or damage the environment, human health, property, or resources.

Research into the environmental effects of scrubber wash water is ongoing, however, ports are concerned of the potential for these systems to contaminate sediment, preventing future dredging activities. In order to contribute to the evidence base and facilitate better understanding of the potential impacts of the use of exhaust gas cleaning systems, Peel Ports Group is collecting information about the vessels using their ports.

All vessels navigating within the SHA area of Peel Ports London Medway are invited to complete the short survey to assist with this work. The survey can be accessed via the News section within PortLinks OBP or the link below and could be completed when making bookings for vessel arrivals. The survey will continue to run until December 2021 when a review of data collected will be carried out and the need to re-issue considered.

Questionnaire Link. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfe4fSuD-jlP2V1-VWwzWMzRP5Q5GoMwcZX73k37Vz8DEYy3q/viewform>

**Marine Operations Department
Peel Ports London Medway**

5th January 2021