

**WAC 220-650-080 Interim open sea exchange alternative.** (1) **In general.** For purposes of this section, a vessel owner or operator may use an exchange alternative instead of conducting an open sea exchange, except for Columbia River ports unless specifically approved, provided:

(a) The vessel owner or operator is not otherwise required to meet discharge performance standards under WAC 220-650-090; and

(b) The exchange alternative meets or exceeds the standards provided under Regulation D-2 of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediment as signed on February 13, 2004.

(2) **Notification.** Vessel owners or operators must file a signed notification form, as provided by the department, stating that they intend to use an exchange alternative to meet state ballast water exchange requirements. A single notification form may cover multiple vessels under the authority of a single vessel owner or operator. The form must include the minimum content as required in subsection (3) of this section. This notification does not release vessel owners or operators from meeting other federal or state ballast water reporting or discharge regulations.

(3) **Notification form contents.** The department's notification of exchange alternative use will, at a minimum, require the following information:

(a) Vessel name(s), identification number(s) (International Maritime Organization, Lloyds of London, or USCG registry number), owner, agent, and vessel type(s);

(b) The manufacturer, brand name, model, and other information, as necessary, of the technology on board the vessel, and a brief description of the technology and its process for removing or inactivating organisms in ballast water;

(c) The name of the flag state that has approved the exchange alternative system, a copy of IMO type approval certification or final approval documentation, or other information that reasonably documents how the exchange alternative was tested to ensure it meets state open sea exchange requirements;

(d) If the exchange alternative will not be used on all ballast tanks, the number of tanks and the volume of each tank that will be managed using the exchange alternative;

(e) A recommendation from the state department of ecology, based upon a toxicity report provided in accordance with Appendix H of ecology publication number WQ-R-95-80, setting conditions necessary for the environmentally safe discharge of biocide treated ballast water;

(f) A statement that the vessel owner or operator will file a new notification if there are any changes in the information required in this subsection;

(g) A statement that the vessel will conduct a valid open sea exchange under this section if they do not use the exchange alternative; and

(h) The signature of the vessel owner or operator.

(4) **Submission.** The department will accept notification application forms up to eighteen months prior to the implementation date for that type of vessel under WAC 220-650-090, or a subsequent, delayed implementation date. Applications received within the eighteen-month period may be accepted, but will not be granted the full grace period as provided in subsection (6)(c) of this section. Send the completed form to the department by email to [ballastwater@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:ballastwater@dfw.wa.gov), or if email is not possible, by fax to 360-902-2943, or by U.S. mail to:

WDFW, AIS Unit, P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, Washington 98504-3200, USA. The vessel owner or operator will be notified of the department's receipt of the form within ten working days.

(5) **Acceptance.** The department will make a final decision on acceptance within forty-five days of receipt. If the notification is illegible or incomplete, it will be returned to the vessel owner or operator as unacceptable, with an explanation of the deficiencies. The notification is effective upon department verification of acceptance by email or in writing to the vessel owner or operator.

(6) **Notification conditions.** To maintain acceptance, the vessel owner or operator must meet all of the following conditions:

(a) All notification form content in subsection (3) of this section remains accurate;

(b) Vessel owners or operators shall maintain a copy of the accepted notification of exchange alternative use in the vessel's ballast water management plan under WAC 220-650-030;

(c) Vessel owners or operators may use the exchange alternative for a period of five years from the date on which the equipment was first placed into service or until the vessel must meet discharge performance standards under WAC 220-650-090, whichever is longer;

(d) The exchange alternative equipment is otherwise used as defined in WAC 220-650-090 for installed equipment; and

(e) The department determines through inspections, sampling, investigations, or other methods, that the exchange alternative continues to meet, or is likely to continue to meet, open sea exchange standards.

(7) **Other laws.** Nothing in these rules or laws authorizes the discharge of other pollutants or assures that the technology is safe to operate or that it meets other state, federal, and international laws governing business, marine applications, or other elements.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.020, 77.12.045, 77.12.047, 77.120.040(5). WSR 18-08-013, § 220-650-080, filed 3/22/18, effective 4/22/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.013, 77.04.020, 77.04.055, and 77.12.047. WSR 17-05-112 (Order 17-04), recodified as § 220-650-080, filed 2/15/17, effective 3/18/17. Statutory Authority: RCW 77.12.047, 77.120.030, 77.120.040, and 77.120.070. WSR 09-14-052 (Order 09-110), § 220-150-043, filed 6/25/09, effective 7/26/09.]