

Submission regarding New Zealand's accession to MARPOL Annex VI.

New Zealand's stated ambition is to be a global leader on climate change with strong credibility and influence in international climate negotiations. The Northland Regional Council supports this ambition and indeed are continuously looking at new initiatives and means to reduce emissions at a regional level. The Northland Regional Council thus strongly supports Accession to Annex VI.

The Northland region accommodates significant shipping tonnage on an annual basis with both foreign and domestic ships making calls at the refinery and bulk cargo terminals situated at Marsden Point as well as cruise liners calling to the Bay of Islands. On average, Marsden Point accommodates 850 ships a year with the Bay of Islands steadily increasing in numbers annually to a scheduled 65 bookings for the 2018/19 Cruise Season. With tankers of up to Suezmax class (270m LOA and DWT of 170,000) calling to Marsden Point and passenger vessels of up to 340m and carrying 4500 people calling into the Bay, the Northland Region accommodates some of the largest tonnage to call at New Zealand Ports.

It is not uncommon for the Regional Council to receive complaints from members of the public regarding excessive exhaust emissions from ships. As the regional environmental authority, as far as air pollution is concerned, there is little that can be done to manage the issue of excessive emissions from vessels outside of participation by ships in voluntary localised schemes. Accession to the now worldwide accepted standard of MARPOL Annex VI at a national level will give us the ability to control and regulate excessive emissions within Northlands Ports, and provide a means for pursuing and holding to account non-compliant vessels. The accession to Annex VI would also complement other initiatives New Zealand already has in place to control green-house gas emissions and would ensure New Zealand is keeping pace with, and positively contributing to, a global initiative.

On Behalf of Northland Regional Council



Jim Lyle
Regional Harbourmaster