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North America ECA - Electronic Fuel Oil Non-Availability Disclosure Portal (FOND)

April 2013

On 26 June 2012 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued an *Interim Guidance on the Non-Availability of Compliant Fuel Oil for the North American Emission Control Area (ECA)* (see earlier website article: *North America ECA Effective 1 August 2012 - EPA Guidance on Non-Availability*). The Interim Guidance clarifies how the U.S. Government will implement the fuel oil availability provisions contained in Regulation 18 of MARPOL Annex VI and describes how an owner or operator of a vessel who cannot obtain compliant fuel oil can make a fuel oil non-availability claim through submission of a **Fuel Oil Non-Availability Report (FONAR)**. The Interim Guidance also indicated that the EPA was in the process of implementing an electronic system to receive the FONARs. The EPA has now launched this system, the **Fuel Oil Non-Availability Disclosure Portal (FOND)**. Those wishing to submit FONARs to the EPA must now request an electronic FONAR form through FOND, and must submit completed FONARs through this same electronic portal.

With effect from 1 April 2013, the previous option to submit a FONAR to the EPA via email is no longer available and all reports must now be submitted via FOND.

The EPA has issued instructions on how to register with and use the FOND portal to submit a FONAR to disclose potential violations of the North American Emission Control Area under MARPOL Annex VI, Regulation 18. The instructions can be viewed and downloaded below or via the [EPA website](#). The FOND portal itself can be found at: <https://cdx.epa.gov/>

Other Resources:

The EPA webpage dealing with Transportation and Air Quality issues for Ocean Vessels and Large Ships can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/oceanvessels.htm>

MARPOL Annex VI Enters Into Force