



Michigan Ballast Water Program Update

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Authority:

- Michigan legislation in 2005 amended the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451
- Part 31. Water Resources Protection



Michigan's Permit Background

- Michigan's Ballast Water Control General Permit for Port Operations and Ballast Water Discharge became effective in 2007



Michigan's Permit Background

- Requires:
 - Oceangoing vessels to use one of four approved ballast water treatment methods,
 - or an alternative treatment based on an effectiveness demonstration to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), to prevent the discharge of aquatic invasive species during port operations,
 - or to certify that they are not discharging ballast water.



Michigan's Permit Background

- Preapproved treatment methods include Hypochlorite, Chlorine Dioxide, Ultra Violet radiation, and Deoxygenation.
- Michigan's General Permit does not contain concentration-based limits for living organisms; rather, the permit contains operational requirements for treatment methods (e.g., chlorine dose and duration requirements).



Michigan's Permit Background

- The DEQ reissued Michigan's General Permit on March 9, 2012, and retained the same requirements as the previous permit.



Michigan's Permit Implementation

- The DEQ has issued almost 350 Certificates of Coverage to vessels under the Michigan General Permit since 2007.
- All vessels certified no ballast water discharge with the exception of 3 vessels that identified hypochlorite as part of their ballast water treatment method and one vessel that identified ultraviolet radiation in 2016.



Michigan's Permit Implementation

- Michigan does not implement a ballast water inspection program.
- Michigan's current permit expires January 1, 2017. Work to reissue the permit is currently underway.
- Michigan also exercises state authority by issuing ballast water treatment and monitoring requirements via Section 401 certification of the USEPA's VGP.





“As the moon floats over the ocean, a rabbit runs over the waves; what interesting island scenery”

-Japanese Noh song