

# Republic of the Marshall Islands

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

11495 COMMERCE PARK DRIVE, RESTON, VIRGINIA 20191-1507

TELEPHONE: +1-703-620-4880 FAX: +1-703-476-8522

EMAIL: maritime@register-iri.com WEBSITE: www.register-iri.com

### MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY NO. 19-19

**To: Owners/Operators, Charterers, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations**

**Subject: New Procedure for Shipping Industry to Notify the United States Government of Non-Availability of Compliant Fuel Oil**

**Date: 1 July 2019**

The United States (US) Coast Guard recently issued Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) Number [005-19](#), *New Procedures for Shipping Industry to Notify the US Government of Non Availability of Compliant Fuel Oil*. Owners and Operators are advised to carefully review it.

**Effective immediately**, vessels operating in the North American or US Caribbean Sea Emission Control Area (ECA), that are unable to acquire sufficient MARPOL Annex VI compliant fuel oil should notify the competent authority of the relevant port of destination by notifying their relevant US Coast Guard Captain of the Port (COPT). Effective June 30, 2019, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has stopped accepting Fuel Oil Non-Availability Reports (FONARs).

Failure to make MARPOL Annex VI required notifications may result in vessel control (e.g., detention) or enforcement action. Though there is no specific format for notification, ship owners or operators should be prepared to present a record of actions taken to achieve compliance, including evidence of attempt to purchase compliant fuel oil in accordance with vessel's voyage plan.

Owners and operators are also advised that alternative approaches can be utilized for complying with the notification requirements. Please review the bulletin for additional information.

This MSA expires one (1) year after its issuance, unless otherwise noted, extended, superseded, or revoked.