To the Master of __________________
IMO No __________________
Date __________________

MARPOL Annex VI Advisory Letter
Sulphur Oxides (SOx) and Particulate Matter (Regulation 14)¹

Dear Captain,

We would like to bring to your attention the new regulations on sulphur content of fuel oils used on board ships from 1 January 2020. From this date, all ships subject to MARPOL Annex VI are, in principle, required to use on board fuel oils with a sulphur content of maximum 0.50% m/m in accordance with MARPOL Annex VI Regulation 14, or use an alternative emission reduction method to comply with the emission standard.

From 1 January 2020, Port State Control Officers from Australia will check compliance with these regulations through the bunker delivery notes, related log books and records and by sampling from the fuel lines, if necessary.

The following has been examined and we note the vessel does not currently comply in the following areas:

1. SOx records □
2. Sulphur oxides □
3. Sulphur content of fuel used □
4. Alternative arrangements (SOx) □

From 1 January 2020, Port State Control Officers will put further emphasis on the following items:

1. That the ship carries on board and uses fuel oil with a sulphur content conditional to the area of operation.
2. The ship retains the bunker delivery notes (BDNs) and associated samples or records as required.
3. There are written procedures covering fuel oil change over operations, where appropriate.
4. That the Master and ship’s personnel are familiar with essential fuel oil management procedures.
5. That the ship has an appropriate approval for any installed exhaust gas cleaning systems, or equivalent means, if required.

This letter is reminder that the ship must comply by 1 January 2020. If deficiencies are recorded against any of these items from 1 January 2020 action may be taken by the Port State Control Officer. Actions may include detention of the ship or other enforcement, administrative or corrective measures.

You are requested to inform the company of the above. Further details are given in MARPOL Annex VI Regulations 14 and 18.

On behalf of the Maritime Authority of Australia

PSCO Port Date

¹ As amended by MEPC.305(73)
² In Emission Control Areas the sulphur content of fuel oil used on board shall not exceed 0.10% m/m.