



SEMAPHORE

Newsletter of the Maritime Law

Association of Australia and New Zealand



Update of NSW Maritime Regulations Awaited

Possible changes to ports and maritime regulations in New South Wales are awaited, following the period for submissions on Transport for New South Wales' Ports and Maritime Administration Regulation 2012 closing on February 19.

The formal consultation process is required under the Subordinate Legislation Act 1989 staged repeal process.

The regulations under review cover a variety of matters including port charges, mandatory standards and performance measures under the Port Botany Landside Improvement Strategy (PBLIS), the boundaries of the state's ports, commuter wharf permits and the charter wharf booking scheme, the mooring licensing scheme and the membership and procedures of the Maritime Advisory Council.

It is proposed that current regulations for the handling of dangerous goods in ports be included in the new Regulation, with some amendments.

Specific proposed changes include:

- a revised definition of "container" be adopted to more closely align NSW requirements with national and international standards
- the principles applied to charging for goods in bulk be applied only to goods that have been loaded or discharged from a hold or tank of a vessel
- vessels that make more than one entry to Port Botany and Sydney Harbour without entering another port receive a 50% reduction on the navigation service charge for subsequent entries
- at Port Kembla, the manifest for goods discharged from a vessel be provided by the end of the third working day after the vessel enters port, and
- information relevant to the calculation of berthing charges be no longer required in triplicate

The Port Botany Landside Operations Mandatory Standards are made under the Ports and Maritime Administration Regulation 2012 and include the detailed rules of the PBLIS that regulate freight movements to and from Port Botany, including servicing and the vehicle booking system (VBS).

A broader, more comprehensive review of the PBLIS will commence in 2021 to ensure it is meeting its objectives.

March 2021

