

BWM Tech Ballast Water Panel

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U.S. EPA
Office of Water
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Comment on Proposed EPA Standards

179 Comment Packages Submitted (incl. several duplicates)

- 65 Industry
- 30 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), includes 2 mass mailers together including more than 28,000 letters
- 24 U.S. states (11 states represented)
- 11 Researchers
- 6 Tribes
- 8 Other (international, federal, local, etc)
- 27 Anonymous

<https://beta.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OW-2019-0482-0001>



General Ballast Comments

(120+ individual and 28,000+ mass responses)

- Industry - Oppose continued use of exchange, oppose more stringent Pacific region standards, exempt all unmanned/unpowered barges from numeric limits
- U.S. States – inadequate comment period, inadequate consultation, less stringent than VGP, retain BMPs, do not exempt lakers, inadequate technology analysis particularly with respect to 2013 VGP court decision
- Non-Governmental Organizations – inadequate technology analysis, do not exempt lakers, less stringent than VGP
- Other – Senator's office that authored VIDA – do not exempt lakers, less stringent than VGP
- Various – work with Canada on binational approach to lakers



Continuation of 2013 VGP (unmodified)

VESSEL GENERAL PERMIT FOR DISCHARGES INCIDENTAL TO THE NORMAL OPERATION OF VESSELS (VGP)

AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act (CWA), as amended (33 USC 1251 et seq.), any owner or operator of a vessel being operated in a capacity as a means of transportation who:

- Is eligible for permit coverage under Part 1.2; and
- If required by Part 1.5.1, submits a complete and accurate Notice of Intent (NOI) or completes a Permit Authorization and Record of Inspection (PARI) form and retains it onboard the vessel

Is authorized to discharge in accordance with the requirements of this permit.

General effluent limits for all eligible vessels are given in Part 2. Further vessel class or type specific requirements are given in Part 5 for select vessels and apply in addition to any general effluent limits in Part 2. Specific requirements that apply in individual states and Indian Country Lands are found in Part 6. Definitions of permit-specific terms used in this permit are provided in Appendix A.

This permit becomes effective on December 19, 2013.

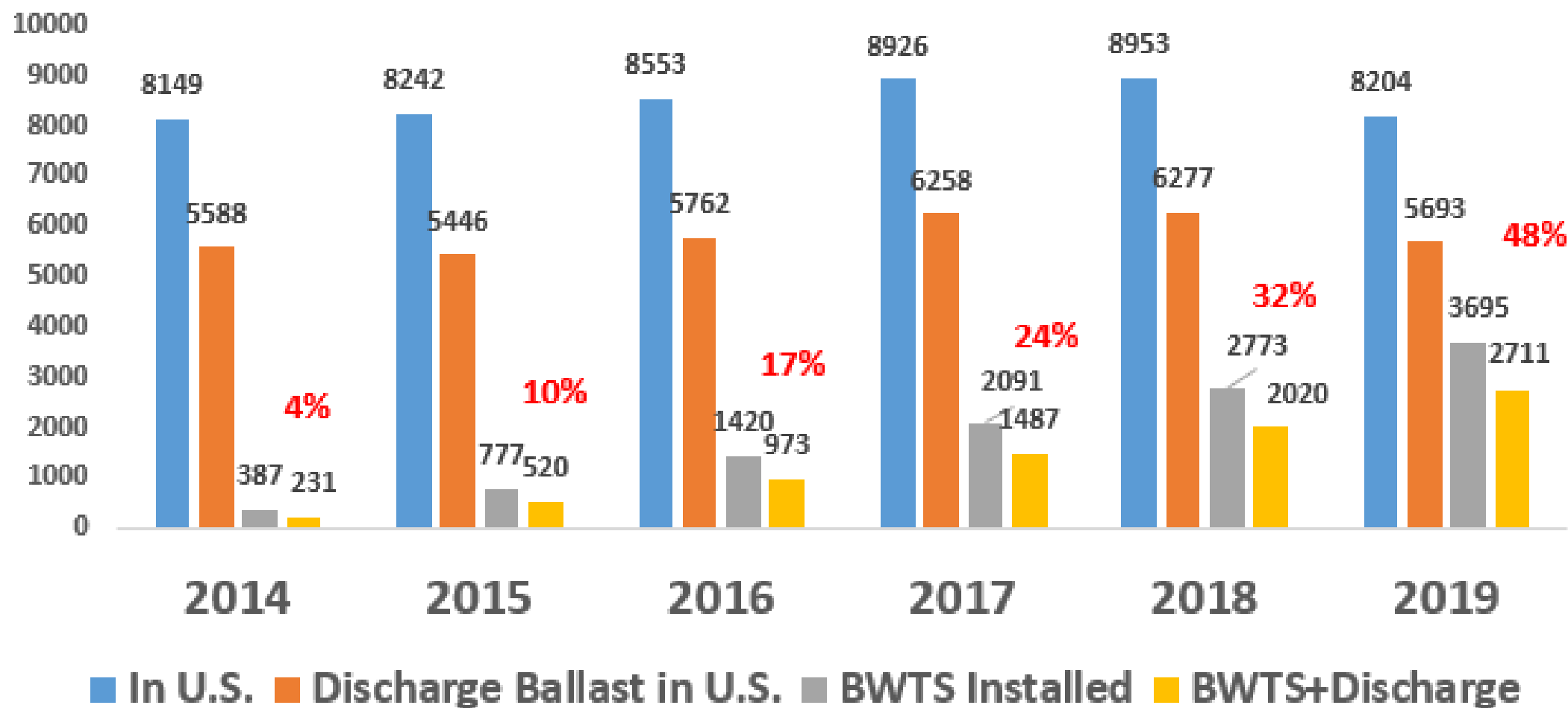
Extended until USCG VIDA regulations in force.

This permit and the authorization to discharge expire at midnight **December 19, 2018**



Freight Vessel Annual Reports for Vessels Operating in U.S. (VGP)

(% Vessels Discharging in U.S. with BWTS)



VGP Ballast Biological Monitoring

YEAR	# Monitoring Events	Exceedances- E. Coli	Exceedances- Entero.
2014	31	3	3
2015	107	0	2 (+1)
2016	155	0	0 (+1)
2017	459	4	1 (+1)
2018	855	2 (+1)	2 (+1)
2019	1296	6 (+3)	9 (+2)

(+) Denotes monitoring events above VGP discharge limit but reported as either below quantitation limit or below detection limit.



Great Lakes and Lake Champlain Ballast Water Research and Development Plan

- Developed pursuant to VIDA's Great Lakes and Lake Champlain Invasive Species Program (GLLCISP), which has as one of its purposes to:
 - Develop, achieve type approval for, and pilot shipboard or land-based ballast water management systems for vessels operating solely within the Great Lakes and Lake Champlain
- First year EPA funding of \$5 million
- Research to be conducted through the Maritime Administration (MARAD) by the Great Waters Research Collaborative administered by the Lake Superior Research Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Superior.

<https://www.uwsuper.edu/lisri/gwrc/gllcisp/index.cfm>



Great Lakes and Lake Champlain Ballast Water Research Project Areas

- Identify Methods and Assess Costs for Great Lakes Ballast Water Management
- Develop a Great Lakes Relevant Ballast Water Management System Testing Protocol
- Accelerate Development of Emerging Ballast Water Treatment Technologies
- Develop Ballast Water Indicative Monitoring Methods
- Assess the Risk of Aquatic Nuisance Species Transfer from Ballast Water Discharge



Contact Information



EPA

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