

Circular From NOE
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China Emission Control Areas

- Another Deadline Fast Approaching

The three emission control areas in China were created to reduce the levels of ship-generated air pollution and focus on the sulphur content of fuels. The three areas are the Pearl River Delta, the Yangtze River Delta and Bohai Sea. Below you will find a summary of the ECAs, ports, and the dates upon which the various requirements become mandatory:

ECA	Port	In Force	Sulphur Limit	Application
Yangtze River Delta	- Shanghai - Ningbo - Zhoushan - Suzhou - Nantong	01/04/16	<0.5%	All vessels - Change over to low sulphur fuel 1 hour after berthing to 1 hour before departure.
Pearl River Delta	- Shenzhen - Yantian - Shekou - Chiwan - Mawan - Dachan Bay	01/10/16	<0.5%	All vessels - Change over to low sulphur fuel 1 hour after berthing to 1 hour before departure.
Key Ports in Pearl River Delta, Yangtze River Delta and Bohai Sea	- Shenzhen - Guangzhou - Zhuhai - Shanghai - Ningbo - Zhoushan - Suzhou - Nantong - Tianjin - Qinhuangdao - Tangshan - Huanghua	01/01/17	<0.5%	All vessels - Change over to low sulphur fuel 1 hour after berthing to 1 hour before departure.
All Ports in Pearl River Delta, Yangtze River Delta and Bohai Sea	All Ports	01/01/18	<0.5%	All vessels - Change over to low sulphur fuel prior to the vessel berthing.
All Ports in Pearl River Delta, Yangtze River Delta and Bohai Sea	All Ports	01/01/19	<0.5%	All vessels - Change over to low sulphur fuel prior to entering any ECA

China's Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) has issued a set of [guidelines](#) on the implementation and supervision of ECAs that detail how they will verify compliance with emission control measures. Such verification measures may include:

- For ships using low sulphur fuel, inspection of bunker delivery notes, fuel change-over procedures, engine room logbook and fuel oil quality/samples.
- For ships using alternative measures, such as shore power, LNG or exhaust gas scrubbers, inspection of the International Air Pollution Prevention (IAPP) Certificate/Record and engine room log book.

Source of Information: North of England P&I Club

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