

**(b) Periodic examinations**

The Secretary shall conduct periodic examinations of vessels operating under this chapter transporting municipal or commercial waste to determine that each of these vessels has a permit issued under section 2602 of this title.

**(c) Refusal of clearance**

The Secretary of the Treasury may refuse the clearance required by section 60105 of title 46, to any vessel subject to this chapter which does not have a permit required under section 2602 of this title.

**(d) Denial of entry and detention**

If a vessel does not comply with this chapter, the Secretary of Transportation may—

- (1) deny entry to any place in the United States; and
- (2) detain at the place in the United States from which it is about to depart.

**(e) Persistent violators**

The Administrator shall conduct an investigation of the owner or operator of a vessel or facility if the owner has 5 or more separate violations during a 6-month period.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title IV, § 4105, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4157.)

## CODIFICATION

In subsec. (c), “section 60105 of title 46” substituted for “section 4197 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (46 App. U.S.C. 91)” on authority of Pub. L. 109-304, § 18(c), Oct. 6, 2006, 120 Stat. 1709, which Act enacted section 60105 of Title 46, Shipping.

**§ 2606. Subpena authority****(a) General authority**

In an investigation under this chapter, the attendance and testimony of witnesses, including parties in interest, and the production of any evidence may be compelled by subpena. The subpena authority granted by this section is coextensive with that of a district court of the United States, in civil matters, for the district in which the investigation is conducted.

**(b) Subpena authority**

An official designated by the Secretary of Transportation or Administrator to conduct an investigation under this chapter may issue subpoenas as provided in this section and administer oaths to witnesses.

**(c) Failure to comply**

When a person fails to obey a subpoena issued under this section, the district court of the United States for the district in which the investigation is conducted or in which the person failing to obey is found, shall on proper application issue an order directing that person to comply with the subpoena. The court may punish as contempt any disobedience of its order.

**(d) Witness fees**

A witness complying with a subpoena issued under this section may be paid for actual travel and attendance at the rate provided for witnesses in the district courts of the United States.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title IV, § 4106, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4157.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original “this part” and was translated as reading “this title” to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

**§ 2607. Fees**

The Secretary of Transportation may collect a fee under section 9701 of title 31 of not more than \$1,000, from each person to whom a permit is issued under this subchapter for a permitting system and to maintain information.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title IV, § 4107, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4158.)

**§ 2608. Civil penalty procedures****(a) General procedures**

After notice and an opportunity for a hearing, a person found by the Secretary of Transportation to have violated this chapter or a regulation prescribed under this chapter for which a civil penalty is provided, is liable to the United States Government for the civil penalty provided. The amount of the civil penalty shall be assessed by the Secretary by written notice. In determining the amount of the penalty, the Secretary shall consider the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the prohibited acts committed and, with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, any history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and other matters that justice requires.

**(b) Compromising penalties**

The Secretary may compromise, modify, or remit, with or without consideration, a civil penalty under this chapter until the assessment is referred to the Attorney General.

**(c) Referral to Attorney General**

If a person fails to pay an assessment of a civil penalty after it has become final, the Secretary may refer the matter to the Attorney General for collection in an appropriate district court of the United States.

**(d) Refund of penalty**

The Secretary may refund or remit a civil penalty collected under this chapter if—

- (1) application has been made for refund or remission of the penalty within one year from the date of payment; and
- (2) the Secretary finds that the penalty was unlawfully, improperly, or excessively imposed.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title IV, § 4108, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4158.)

**§ 2609. Penalties****(a) General penalty**

Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a person violating this chapter is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000. Each day of a continuing violation is a separate violation. A vessel involved in the violation also is liable in rem for the penalty.

**(b) Operating without a permit**

A person violating section 2602 of this title is liable to the United States Government for a