

for new or additional controls of antifouling systems under the Convention, including benefits in the United States and elsewhere associated with the production and use in the United States and elsewhere, of the subject antifouling system; and

(4) develop recommendations based on that assessment.

(b) Referrals to technical group

(1) Convening of Shipping Coordinating Committee

On referral of any antifouling system to the technical group described in article 7 of the Convention for consideration of new or additional controls, the Secretary of State shall convene a public meeting of the Shipping Coordinating Committee for the purpose of receiving information and comments regarding controls on such antifouling system. The Secretary of State shall publish advance notice of such meeting in the Federal Register and on the State Department's Web site. The Administrator shall assemble and maintain a public docket containing notices pertaining to that meeting, any comments responding to those notices, the minutes of that meeting, and materials presented at that meeting.

(2) Report by technical group

The Administrator shall promptly make any report by the technical group described in the Convention available to the public through the docket established pursuant to subsection (b) and announce the availability of that report in the Federal Register. The Administrator shall provide an opportunity for public comment on the report for a period of not less than 30 days from the time the availability of the report is announced in the Federal Register.

(3) Consideration of comments

To the extent practicable, the Administrator shall take any comments into consideration in developing recommendations under subsection (a).

(Pub. L. 111-281, title X, §1024, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3026.)

§ 3825. Scientific and technical research and monitoring; communication and information

The Secretary, the Administrator, and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration may each undertake scientific and technical research and monitoring pursuant to article 8 of the Convention and to promote the availability of relevant information concerning—

- (1) scientific and technical activities undertaken in accordance with the Convention;
- (2) marine scientific and technological programs and their objectives; and
- (3) the effects observed from any monitoring and assessment programs relating to antifouling systems.

(Pub. L. 111-281, title X, §1025, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3027.)

§ 3826. Communication and exchange of information

(a) In general

Except as provided in subsection (b), with respect to those antifouling systems regulated by the Administrator, the Administrator shall provide to any party to the Convention that requests it, relevant information on which the decision to regulate was based, including information provided for in annex 3 to the Convention, or other information suitable for making an appropriate evaluation of the antifouling system.

(b) Limitation

This section shall not be construed to authorize the provision of information the disclosure of which is otherwise prohibited by law.

(Pub. L. 111-281, title X, §1026, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3027.)

SUBCHAPTER III—PROHIBITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

§ 3841. Prohibitions

(a) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, it is unlawful for any person—

- (1) to act in violation of this chapter, or any regulation prescribed under this chapter;
- (2) to sell or distribute in domestic or international commerce organotin or an antifouling system containing organotin;
- (3) to manufacture, process, or use organotin to formulate an antifouling system;
- (4) to apply an antifouling system containing organotin on any vessel to which this chapter applies; or
- (5) after the Convention enters into force for the United States, to apply or otherwise use in a manner inconsistent with the Convention, an antifouling system on any vessel that is subject to this chapter.

(b) Vessel hulls

Except as provided in subsection (c), no vessel shall bear on its hull or outer surface any antifouling system containing organotin, regardless of when such system was applied, unless that vessel bears an overcoating which forms a barrier to organotin leaching from the underlying antifouling system.

(c) Limitations

(1) Excepted vessel

Subsection (b) does not apply to fixed or floating platforms, FSUs, or FPSOs that were constructed prior to January 1, 2003, and that have not been in dry dock on or after that date.

(2) Sale, manufacture, etc.

This section does not apply to—

- (A) the sale, distribution, or use pursuant to any agreement between the Administrator and any person that results in an earlier prohibition or cancellation date than specified in this chapter; or
- (B) the manufacture, processing, formulation, sale, distribution, or use of organotin or antifouling systems containing organotin