

**(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 used or intended for use only for sonar domes or in conductivity sensors in oceanographic instruments.

(Pub. L. 111–281, title X, §1031, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3027.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a)(1), (4), (5) and (c)(2)(A), was in the original “this title”, meaning title X of Pub. L. 111–281, Oct. 15, 2010, 124 Stat. 3023, which enacted this chapter and repealed chapter 37 (§2401 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of title X to the Code, see Tables.

**§ 3842. Investigations and inspections by Secretary****(a) In general**

The Secretary may conduct investigations and inspections regarding a vessel’s compliance with this chapter or the Convention.

**(b) Violations; subpoenas****(1) In general**

In any investigation under this section, the Secretary may issue a subpoena to require the attendance of a witness or the production of documents or other evidence if—

(A) before the issuance of the subpoena, the Secretary requests a determination by the Attorney General of the United States as to whether the subpoena will interfere with a criminal investigation; and

(B) the Attorney General—

- (i) determines that the subpoena will not interfere with a criminal investigation; or
- (ii) fails to make a determination under clause (i) before the date that is 30 days after the date on which the Secretary makes a request under subparagraph (A).

**(2) Enforcement**

In the case of refusal to obey a subpoena issued to any person under this subsection, the Secretary may request the Attorney General