

nated bedding; surgical wastes; and other disposable medical equipment and material that may pose a risk to the public health, welfare or the marine environment.

(2) Public vessel

The term “public vessel” means a vessel of any type whatsoever (including hydrofoils, air-cushion vehicles, submersibles, floating craft whether propelled or not, and fixed or floating platforms) that is owned, or demise chartered, and operated by the United States Government, and is not engaged in commercial service.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title III, §3103, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4152.)

§ 2503. Prohibition

After 6 months after November 18, 1988, no public vessel shall dispose of potentially infectious medical waste into ocean waters unless—

(1)(A) the health or safety of individuals on board the vessel is threatened; or

(B) during time of war or a declared national emergency;

(2) the waste is disposed of beyond 50 nautical miles from the nearest land; and

(3)(A) in the case of a public vessel which is not a submersible, the waste is sterilized, properly packaged, and sufficiently weighted to prevent the waste from coming ashore after disposal; and

(B) in the case of a public vessel which is a submersible, the waste is properly packaged and sufficiently weighted to prevent the waste from coming ashore after disposal.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title III, §3104, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4152.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 2504 of this title.

§ 2504. Guidance

Not later than 3 months after November 18, 1988, the Secretary of Defense and the head of each affected agency, in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall each issue guidance for public vessels under the jurisdiction of their agency regarding implementation of section 2503 of this title.

(Pub. L. 100-688, title III, §3105, Nov. 18, 1988, 102 Stat. 4153.)

CHAPTER 39—SHORE PROTECTION FROM MUNICIPAL OR COMMERCIAL WASTE

SUBCHAPTER I—SHORE PROTECTION

Sec. 2601.	Definitions.
2602.	Vessel permits and numbers. (a) In general. (b) Permit applications. (c) Effective date of permits. (d) Denial of permits. (e) Permit decision. (f) Maintaining permit. (g) Vessel information system.
2603.	Waste handling practices. (a) In general. (b) Regulations.

Sec. 2604.	Suspension, revocation, and injunctions. (a) Suspension and revocation. (b) Injunctions.
2605.	Enforcement. (a) General authority. (b) Periodic examinations. (c) Refusal of clearance. (d) Denial of entry and detention. (e) Persistent violators.
2606.	Subpena authority. (a) General authority. (b) Subpena authority. (c) Failure to comply. (d) Witness fees.
2607.	Fees.
2608.	Civil penalty procedures. (a) General procedures. (b) Compromising penalties. (c) Referral to Attorney General. (d) Refund of penalty.
2609.	Penalties. (a) General penalty. (b) Operating without a permit. (c) Criminal penalty. (d) Payments for information.

SUBCHAPTER II—RELATED PROVISIONS

2621.	Study and recommendations. (a) Study. (b) Recommendations.
2622.	Relation to other laws. (a) Effect on Federal and State laws. (b) Effect on foreign vessels.
2623.	Authorization of appropriations.

SUBCHAPTER I—SHORE PROTECTION

§ 2601. Definitions

In this chapter—

(1) “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) “coastal waters” means—

(A) the territorial sea of the United States;
(B) the Great Lakes and their connecting waters;

(C) the marine and estuarine waters of the United States up to the head of tidal influence; and

(D) the Exclusive Economic Zone as established by Presidential Proclamation Number 5030, dated March 10, 1983.

(3) “municipal or commercial waste” means solid waste (as defined in section 6903 of title 42) except—

(A) solid waste identified and listed under section 6921 of title 42;

(B) waste generated by the vessel during normal operations;

(C) debris solely from construction activities;

(D) sewage sludge subject to regulation under title I of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 [33 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.]; and

(E) dredged or fill material subject to regulation under title I of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 [33 U.S.C. 1411 et seq.], the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), or the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 401 et seq.).

(4) “person” means an individual, trust, firm, joint stock company, corporation (in-