



US Department  
of Transportation  
**Maritime  
Administration**

**MANUAL OF ORDERS**

**MARITIME ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

REVOKES  
MAO 600-2 dated  
2/20/91

NO.  
600-2  
EFFECTIVE DATE  
November 2, 1998

SUBJECT

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION  
COMMITTEE**

**Section 1. Purpose:** This order prescribes the roles and responsibilities for environmental compliance for Maritime Administration (MARAD) facilities and operations by establishing the membership and functions of the Environmental Coordination Committee.

**Section 2. Related Directives:** See exhibit attached to this order.

**Section 3. POLICY:** Where legally required, it is MARAD policy that all MARAD facilities and organizations will comply with all Federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, Executive Orders, and DOT Orders for environmental protection. Where such compliance is not legally required, it is MARAD policy to comply to the maximum extent practicable. All MARAD facilities and organizations are also encouraged to cooperate with other government agencies, the shipbuilding and ship operating community, ports, terminals, local jurisdictions and communities, and technical, academic, and trade associations to identify issues and solutions associated with marine transportation and the human and natural environment.

**Section 4. RESPONSIBILITIES:**

4.01 The Associate Administrator for Port, Intermodal, and Environmental Activities is the Coordinator of Environmental Activities for MARAD (Coordinator) and shall:

- 1 Develop, coordinate and direct MARAD's environmental program and functions in accordance with all applicable Federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- 2 Oversee the Region and Facility Environmental Representatives to assure compliance with all applicable environmental regulations.
- 3 Conduct environmental audits of MARAD facilities and field operations on a periodic basis, approximately every two years.
- 4 Act as chairperson for the Environmental Coordination Committee.
- 5 Distribute meeting notices and minutes of the Environmental Coordination Committee to all members and interested parties.

4.02 The Associate Administrators, Independent Office Directors, Region Directors, and the Superintendent, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, shall:

- 1 Comply, as provided in section 3 above, with all applicable Federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, Executive Orders, and DOT Orders for all MARAD programs under their jurisdiction.
- 2 Establish the necessary programs and controls to identify and comply with the applicable environmental requirements in a systematic and proactive manner.

4.03 The Associate Administrators, Region Directors, Superintendent, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, and Director, Office of Maritime Labor, Training, and Safety shall designate a member of their organization as their Environmental Representative. Elements in the designee's performance plan and evaluations shall include appropriate environmental responsibilities such as those contained in 4.04 below.

4.04 The Environmental Representatives shall:

- 1 Coordinate the environmental functions required by their organizations.
- 2 Assure compliance within their region or facility by monitoring performance, conducting audits, or other appropriate means.
- 3 Notify the Coordinator, in a timely manner, when significant environmental issues occur.
- 4 Serve as members of the Environmental Coordination Committee.

4.05 The MARAD Chief Counsel shall:

- 1 Serve as a legal advisor to the Coordinator with respect to all environmental matters.
- 2 Upon request of the Maritime Administrator, or Coordinator, review any tentative determinations or recommendations issued by the Committee that involve action by MARAD in the pursuit of the protection of the environment.
- 3 Designate a member of the Office of Chief Counsel as a member of the Environmental Coordination Committee.
- 4 Provide information and guidance to the Environmental Coordination Committee about regulatory approaches and trends, litigation, and proposed MARAD activities regarding environmental issues and compliance.

Section 5. ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE:

5.01 The purpose of the Environmental Coordination Committee is to improve communication of environmental issues; coordinate environmental activities; inform members of new regulations, decisions, and interpretations affecting environmental compliance; establish guidance for compliance; assist in developing uniform approaches and solutions; and foster cooperation within MARAD.

5.02 The Environmental Coordination Committee membership consists of MARAD's Environmental Coordinator (Chairperson), all Environmental Representatives, and the Chief Counsel (or designee).

5.03 The Coordinator will arrange an annual meeting of the full Environmental Coordination Committee to be held in the Washington, DC area. Additional meetings of two or more members may be held as needed at any location. The initiating committee member must provide other desired attendees with the date, location, and time of such additional meetings. Minutes of all meetings must be recorded and distributed to all committee members within a reasonable time according to the urgency of the issue, but in no case later than 30 business days after the meeting.

  
CLYDE J. HART, JR.  
Maritime Administrator

The *National Environmental Policy Act* (42 U.S.C. 4321-4347) (NEPA) established the Nation's environmental policies and goals, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to unify the assessment and protection of the environment. NEPA requires that environmental impacts be appropriately analyzed and considered during the federal decision-making process.

Executive Order (EO) No. 11514, *Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality*, dated, March 5, 1970 (35 FR 4247), as amended by EO No. 11991, dated May 24, 1977 (42 FR 26967), mandated that the Federal Government provide leadership in protecting and enhancing the quality of the Nation's environment to sustain and enrich human life. Federal agencies are required to initiate measures needed to direct their policies, plans and programs so as to meet national environmental goals.

EO No. 11988, *Floodplain Management*, dated May 24, 1977 (42 FR 26951), as amended by EO No. 12148, dated July 20, 1979 (44 FR 43239), mandated that each agency's leadership and take action to reduce the risk of flood loss, to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare, and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains in carrying out the agency's responsibilities.

EO No. 11990, *Protection of Wetlands*, dated May 24, 1977 (42 FR 26961), as amended by EO No. 12608, dated September 9, 1987 (52 FR 34617), provided that each agency provide leadership and take action to minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands in carrying out the agency's responsibilities.

EO No. 12088, *Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards*, dated October 13, 1978 (43 FR 47707), as amended by EO No. 12580, dated January 23, 1987 (52 FR 2928), provided that the head of each Executive agency is responsible for ensuring that all necessary actions are taken for the prevention, control, and abatement of environmental pollution with respect to Federal facilities and activities under the control of the agency.

EO No. 12114, *Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions*, dated January 4, 1979 (44 FR 1957), provided that officials of Federal agencies further environmental objectives consistent with the foreign policy and national security policy of the United States.

EO No. 12852, *President's Council on Sustainable Development*, dated June 29, 1993 (58 FR 35841), as amended by EO No. 12855, July 19, 1993 (58 FR 39107), amended by EO No. 12965, dated June 27, 1995 (60 FR 34087), amended by EO No. 12980, dated November 17, 1995 (60 FR 57819), and amended by EO No. 13053, dated June 30, 1997 (62 FR 39945) established the "President's Council on Sustainable Development."

EO No. 12856, *Federal Compliance with Right-to-Know Laws and Pollution Prevention Requirements*, dated August 3, 1993 (58 FR 41981), which ensures that all Federal agencies conduct their facility management and acquisition activities so that, to the maximum extent practicable, the quantity of toxic chemicals entering the wastestream, including any releases to the environment, is reduced as expeditiously as possible through source reduction; that waste generated is recycled to the maximum extent practicable; and that any wastes remaining are stored, treated, or disposed of in a manner protective of public health and the environment. Federal agencies are also required to report in a public manner toxic chemicals entering any wastestream from their facilities, including any releases to the environment, and to improve local emergency planning, response, and accident notification.

EO No. 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, dated February 11, 1994 (59 FR 7629), as amended by EO No. 12948, dated January 30, 1995 (60 FR 6381), which required each Federal agency to make achieving environmental justice a part of the agency's mission.

EO No. 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*, dated April 21, 1997 (62 FR 19885), established as part of each agency's mission the duty assess environmental health risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children.

## Exhibit

EO No. 13061, *Federal Support of Community Efforts Along American Heritage Rivers*, dated September 11, 1997 (62 FR 48445), mandated that Federal agencies assist in coordinating efforts of the American Heritage Rivers initiative to protect the environment, encourage economic revitalization, and promote historic and cultural preservation.

EO No. 13101, *Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition*, dated September 16, 1998 (63 FR 49641), which requires the head of each executive agency to incorporate waste prevention and recycling in the agency's daily operations and work to increase and expand markets for recovered materials through greater Federal Government preference and demand for such products; to develop and implement affirmative procurement programs in accordance with section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (42 U.S.C. 6962) and this order; to ensure that responsibilities for preparation, implementation, and monitoring of affirmative procurement programs are shared between the program personnel and acquisition and procurement personnel; and to endeavor when making purchases to maximize environmental benefits, consistent with price, performance, and availability considerations, and constraints imposed by law, and to adjust solicitation guidelines as necessary in order to accomplish this goal.

United States (U.S.) Department of Transportation (DOT) Order 5600.1, *Pesticide Application at Department of Transportation Facilities*, which establishes DOT policy for application of "general use" and "restricted use" of pesticides at DOT facilities.

DOT Order 5610.1C, *Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts*, which establishes procedures for consideration of environmental impacts in decision-making on proposed DOT actions and provides that information on environmental impacts of proposed actions will be made available to public officials and citizens through environmental analysis and documentation. Maritime Administrative Order 600-1, *Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts*, provides additional guidance on implementing this DOT Order.

DOT Order 5640.1D, *Prevention, Control, and Abatement of Environmental Pollution at Federal Facilities*, which requires DOT activities to include positive consideration of the enhancement of environmental quality and observe all environmental quality standards in the operation of its facilities.

DOT Order 5650.1, *Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment*, which provides for DOT implementation of Executive Order 11593, *Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment*.

DOT Order 5650.2, *Floodplain Management and Protection*, which prescribes policies and procedures for ensuring that proper consideration is given to the avoidance and mitigation of adverse floodplain impacts in agency actions, planning programs, and budget requests.

DOT Order 5660.1A, *Preservation of the Nation's Wetlands*, which sets forth DOT policy that transportation facilities and projects should be planned, constructed, and operated to assure the protection, preservation, and enhancement of the nation's wetlands to the fullest extent practicable, and establishes procedures for implementation of the policy.

DOT Order 5680.1, *Environmental Justice*, which describes the policies and procedures for considering environmental impacts to disadvantaged, minority, or low-income populations.