



## VIDA In-Person Listening Session

**Description:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) are hosting a listening session to enhance public awareness about the newly-passed **Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (VIDA)** and provide an opportunity for engagement. VIDA was signed into law on December 4, 2018 in an effort to streamline the patchwork of federal, state, and local requirements for vessel discharges. The new VIDA regulations will apply primarily to discharges incidental to the normal operation of large commercial vessels, as well as ballast water from small vessels and fishing vessels of all sizes.

During the listening session, the EPA and the USCG will provide a general overview of the regulatory framework to be developed under VIDA, discuss specific discharges, and provide an opportunity for public input.

**Dates:** May 29, 2019 – May 30, 2019

**Location:** U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA)  
300 Steamboat Road  
Kings Point, NY 11024

[View directions to Kings Point.](#)

**Registration Link:** <https://projects.erg.com/conferences/epa/register-vida.asp>

**Public Input Structure:** The public input sessions will be held following each discharge presentation and during a general public input session on the morning of May 30, 2019. The EPA and the USCG are asking that oral statements be limited to five minutes or less. The time limit will be enforced to be considerate of all speakers. Speakers are asked to begin with an introduction that includes their name and organization. The EPA and USCG request that remarks be focused on the following questions and topics:

1. Are there any requirements under the 2013 Vessel General Permit (VGP), U.S. Coast Guard regulations, or other regulations and guidelines that you recommend the agencies be mindful of, or consider altering, in the development of national standards of performance and corresponding implementing regulations under VIDA?
2. Are there new technologies or practices that the agencies should be aware of in the development of future national standards of performance and corresponding implementing regulations under VIDA?

Attendance will be in-person only.

**Note:** The EPA and USCG presentation slides will be made available on the [EPA VIDA Engagement Opportunities](#) web page.



# VIDA In-Person Listening Session

**May 29, 2019 (10:00 am – 5:30 pm)**

Registration: 10:00 am – 10:30 am

Morning Session: 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

## **Welcome and VIDA Overview**

Afternoon Session: 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm

**Discharge Sessions** *Each discharge session will consist of an overview of the current regulatory framework and an opportunity for public input.*

- Ballast Water
- Exhaust Gas Cleaning System (EGCS) Washwater
- Environmentally Acceptable Lubricants (EALs)

**May 30, 2019 (8:30 am – 12:30 pm)**

Morning Session Only: 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

**Discharge Sessions** *Each discharge session will consist of an overview of the current regulatory framework and an opportunity for public input.*

- Gray Water
- Biofouling Management

**General Public Input Session** *The general public input session will provide an opportunity for public input on any discharges not covered during the specific discharge sessions.*

**Closing Remarks**