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Reduction of Emissions Guidance for Operators

Introduction

In July 2018 the PLA published an Air Quality Strategy for the River Thames with the overall aim being: -

The Reduction in harmful emissions to air from marine sources within the tidal River Thames, whilst facilitating the Port and London's future growth.

The published strategy sets out targets to reduce emissions to air from marine sources by 50% by 2041. The PLA has committed to deliver a range of guidance documents to assist in reducing emissions.

Emission reduction

Emissions can be reduced from vessels by a number of means - behavioural change, fuel adaptation, or by mechanical changes & additions. Not all solutions fit existing operations and vessels on the Thames.

The PLA has produced best practice guidance based on experience from international shipping and other inland fleets. This includes a number of interventions which may help operators implement changes in the coming months and years to help reduce emissions. The value of these interventions will vary. Some will also lower operating costs, including improved maintenance regimes and working with the tides to reduce the fuel required. Others will require a larger investment, for example scrubbing systems and alternative fuels requiring a change in infrastructure or vessel layout.

This guidance will compliment a handbook for developers which will encourage the use of waterborne transport to transport freight which in turn will improve air quality along the banks by reducing vehicles from the roads. Further works is being undertaken on alternative uses of the river, including last mile deliveries and connections to passenger piers from developments not directly on the river. The handbook will be published in the coming months.

Where do I find further information?

The guidance is available on the PLA website.

<http://www.pla.co.uk/assets/finalguidanceforinlandoperators.pdf>

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