



# Prevention of Oil Pollution Act 1971

## 1971 CHAPTER 60

### *Miscellaneous and supplementary*

#### **29 Interpretation**

(1) In this Act—

“barge ” includes a lighter and any similar vessel;

“harbour authority ” and “harbour in the United Kingdom ” have the meanings assigned to them by section 8(2) of this Act;

“harbour master ” includes a dock master or pier master, and any person specially appointed by a harbour authority for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Act in relation to the harbour ;

“local enactment ” means a local or private Act, or an order confirmed by Parliament or brought into operation in accordance with special parliamentary procedure ;

“oil ” means oil of any description and includes spirit produced from oil of any description, and also includes coal tar;

“oil reception facilities ” has the meaning assigned to it by section 9(1) of this Act;

“oil residues ” means any waste consisting of, or arising from, oil or a mixture containing oil;

“outside the territorial waters of the United Kingdom ” means outside the seaward limits of those waters;

“petroleum-spirit ” has the same meaning as in the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928 ;

“place on land ” has the meaning assigned to it by section 2(3) of this Act;

“sea ” includes any estuary or arm of the sea;

“transfer ”, in relation to oil, means transfer in bulk.

(2) Any reference in any provision of this Act to a mixture containing oil shall be construed as a reference to any mixture of oil (or, as the case may be, of oil of a description referred to in that provision) with water or with any other substance.

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).*

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- (3) Any reference in the provisions of this Act other than section 11 to the discharge of oil or a mixture containing oil, or to its being discharged, from a vessel, place or thing, except where the reference is to its being discharged for a specified purpose, includes a reference to the escape of the oil or mixture, or (as the case may be) to its escaping, from that vessel, place or thing.
- (4) For the purposes of any provision of this Act relating to the discharge of oil or a mixture containing oil from a vessel, any floating craft (other than a vessel) which is attached to a vessel shall be treated as part of the vessel.
- (5) Any power conferred by this Act to test any equipment on board a vessel shall be construed as including a power to require persons on board the vessel to carry out such work as may be requisite for the purpose of testing the equipment; and any provision of this Act as to submitting equipment for testing shall be construed accordingly.
- (6) Subject to the preceding subsections, expressions used in this Act and in the Merchant Shipping Act 1894, have the same meanings in this Act as in that Act.
- (7) Except in so far as the context otherwise requires, any reference in this Act to an enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as amended by or under any other enactment.