

Michael Sklar

Regarding this proposal: I support Amendment #2 and oppose those options and provisions that would allow cruise ship operators to resume discharging scrubber waste into the ocean. Allowing such discharges would increase the pollution burden on marine ecosystems, which are already stressed in areas like Puget Sound. Such pollution would further damage already-stressed marine ecosystems.

Scrubbers should be banned as per amendment #2 to close the yawning loophole that allows cruise ships to burn one of the dirtiest fossil fuels on earth - heavy fuel oil. All scrubbers do is transfer toxins from the air to the water.

The pollution caused by cruise ships is one of the main reasons I rarely choose to go on cruises. Requiring cruise ships to either treat scrubber wastes on shore -- or better yet, shift away from such a destructive fuel source -- would increase my interest in cruise vacations. It's also a huge opportunity for the cruise sector to show that they are committed to changing their polluting ways by agreeing to end the dumping of all scrubber wastes in Puget Sound.

Please approve amendment #2 and ban scrubbers.