

General Manager's Direction

Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994

Section 191A – Direction to person about operation of ship in relation to pilotage area

Application

This direction applies to the masters of all ships in Queensland waters if:

- the ship left, or transited through mainland China on or after 1 February 2020, and
- the ship intends to enter a Queensland pilotage area.

DIRECTION:

I, Angus Mitchell, General Manager of Maritime Safety Queensland, direct the master of a ship to which this direction applies to navigate or otherwise operate the ship in relation to the pilotage area as follows:

- The ship must not enter a Queensland pilotage area until 14 days have elapsed since the ship's departure from mainland China on or after 1 February 2020. (To remove any doubt, this means for example that a ship which departed mainland China on 1 February 2020 may not enter a Queensland pilotage area until 15 February 2020 and a ship that departed mainland China on 3 February 2020 may not enter a Queensland pilotage area until 17 February 2020).

Facts and Circumstances

I am satisfied on the basis of the facts and circumstances stated below that exceptional circumstances exist which justify the giving of this direction in the public interest, in that there is a serious risk to public health:

- The International Health Regulations (2005) Emergency Committee was convened by the World Health Organisation Director-General and met on 30 January 2020. The Director-General declared that the outbreak of 2019-nCoV constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). Refer: [https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/30-01-2020-statement-on-the-second-meeting-of-the-international-health-regulations-\(2005\)-emergency-committee-regarding-the-outbreak-of-novel-coronavirus-\(2019-ncov\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/30-01-2020-statement-on-the-second-meeting-of-the-international-health-regulations-(2005)-emergency-committee-regarding-the-outbreak-of-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov))

- The Australian Government Department of Health, through the Australian Health Protection Committee, on the advice of the Communicable Diseases Network Australia, have agreed that travellers arriving out of mainland China self-isolate for a period of 14 days from the time they leave mainland China. Refer: https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/02/novel-coronavirus-update_1.pdf
- The Chief Health Officer of Queensland has advised that as at 5 February 2020 Queensland has four confirmed cases of novel coronavirus, and advised people who have left, or transited through, mainland China on or after 1 February 2020 to self-isolate for 14 days. Refer: <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/diseases/coronavirus/public-info-novel-coronavirus/fact-sheet-coronavirus>

You are advised that

- It is an offence under section 191A(8) of the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994* to contravene this direction without reasonable excuse. The maximum prescribed penalty for a contravention of this direction is \$66,725 for an individual, and \$333,625 for a corporation.



Angus Mitchell
General Manager
Maritime Safety Queensland
6 February 2020