

State of California
California Air Resources Board

Executive Order G-26-040

Temporary Experimental or Research Exemption under California Code of Regulations, title 13, section 2299.2(c)(6) and title 17, section 93118.2(c)(6)

Disney Cruise Line

WHEREAS, pursuant to sections 39600, 39601, 41510, 41511, 43013, and 43018 of the Health and Safety Code, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has established requirements for ocean-going vessels (OGV) to use marine gas oil (DMX, DMA, or DMZ grade) or marine diesel oil (DMB grade) at specified sulfur limits ("compliant fuels") in the main engine, auxiliary engines, and auxiliary boilers within a 24 nautical mile zone of the California Coastline; these requirements are found at California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 13, section 2299.2 and title 17, section 93118.2 (OGV Fuel Regulation);

WHEREAS, section 2299.2 (c)(6) and 93118.2(c)(6) of the OGV Fuel Regulation, authorizes the Executive Officer to provide a temporary exemption in whole or part from using the specified fuels for the purpose of research or experimentation that will generate data that advances the state of knowledge of exhaust control technology or characterization of emissions;

WHEREAS, section 2299.2 (c)(6) and 93118.2(c)(6) of the OGV Fuel Regulation requires a person seeking an exemption or extension to submit a written request to the Executive Officer no less than thirty (30) days prior to the vessel's entry into "Regulated California Waters" as defined by section 2299.2(d) and 93118.2(d) of the OGV Fuel Regulation;

WHEREAS, on January 19, 2026, Disney Cruise Line submitted a request that identifies the need for an exemption from the OGV Fuel Regulation to allow this testing;

WHEREAS, Disney Cruise Line has agreed to make the cruise vessel "Disney Wonder" (IMO # 9126819) available to the University of California, Riverside (UCR) for emissions testing on the vessel's main engine and auxiliary boilers, as described in the test plan entitled "Work Plan: Disney Wonder Tier 0 OGV Alternative Fuel Evaluation";

WHEREAS, Disney Cruise Line has agreed to permit this research to be conducted aboard the Disney Wonder, focusing on evaluating emissions from the main propulsion engines and auxiliary boilers under various operating conditions, utilizing two fuel types: marine gas oil (MGO) and a renewable diesel blend (R99, 99% renewable diesel), specifically Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO);

WHEREAS, in this research study, the Disney Wonder test vessel will leave the Port of San Diego operating its main engine on CARB compliant MGO (0.1% sulfur distillate). The Disney Wonder will stay on MGO fuel at sea and UCR will collect emissions data and samples over various loads including but not limited to, cold start, 25% load, 50% load, max load, and warm maneuvering. Once UCR receives clearance from the vessel operator, the vessel operator will switch over to HVO and continue to run tests in the same loads as

mentioned above;

WHEREAS, cold-start emissions sampling on the main engine will begin at engine startup and continue for the following three hours as the vessel warms up and departs the port. During this period, UCR will collect up to six consecutive 30-minute samples. All subsequent test points will be conducted in triplicate and reflect stabilized, steady-state operating conditions. Simulated warm-start port-entry test at sea will include three 30-minute samples;

WHEREAS, the primary objective is to perform emission testing to better characterize off-cycle (low load) emissions from a pre-Tier OGV and to evaluate how emissions change when the vessel operates on HVO compared with MGO;

WHEREAS, testing is anticipated to commence in April 2026 on the Disney Wonder during a voyage from the Port of San Diego to and from Ensenada, Mexico and is expected to occur over a period for up to 2 weeks;

WHEREAS, the schedule may be adjusted based on vessel availability but any changes to the testing timeframe must receive prior approval from CARB via email;

WHEREAS, Disney Cruise Line requested a Temporary Experimental or Research Exemption for their main engines and auxiliary boilers on the vessel listed in Table 1;

Table 1. Vessel and Engine Information

Owner/ Operator	Vessel Name and Tier	IMO #	Engine Make/Model	Number of Engines
Disney Cruise Line	Disney Wonder (Pre-Tier)	9126819	Sulzer / Wartsila/16 ZAV 40S	5 (Main)
			Aalborg AQ9	2 (Aux boilers)

WHEREAS, UCR proposes to test the emissions according to International Organization for Standardization and International Maritime Organization protocols;

WHEREAS, CARB staff has reviewed Disney Cruise Line’s request and the associated test plan developed by CARB and UCR and determined the company has provided a clear and convincing demonstration that its research project with UCR will meet the requirements for a Temporary Experimental or Research Exemption. This is because it involves a formal research project that will generate data that advances the state of knowledge for OGV baseline emissions and alternative fuels; and

WHEREAS, based on the determination described above, the vessel and engines listed in Table 1 qualify for the Temporary Experimental or Research Exemption for the OGV Fuel Regulation;

WHEREAS this approval does not constitute an air pollution or land use permit, nor does

it relieve the responsibility of ONE to comply with any other Federal, State, and local laws, rules, and regulations;

WHEREAS, no later than 6 months after the final measurements have been completed, for each visit where experimental testing was conducted, the draft final report provided by UC Riverside must provide the name of the alternative control technology or fuel used, the name of the vessels using the control technology or fuel, the type of test specified in the approved test plan, the date and time the testing was conducted, and the total hours of operation by the control technology or fuel during the visit;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, Disney Cruise Line is granted an exemption after the effective date of this Executive Order, for up to a 2-week time period in 2026, from the fuel use specifications set forth in section 2299.2(e)(1) and section 93118.2(e)(1) of the OGV Fuel Regulation for the vessel and engines listed in Table 1, only to the extent that the use of noncompliant fuel is necessary to measure exhaust emissions, as determined by UCR and approved by CARB staff;

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, Disney Cruise Line shall keep the following records documenting the use of noncompliant fuel within Regulated California Waters for at least three years following the date when the records were made:

- The specific main engine using the noncompliant fuel due to emissions testing;
- The type of testing or evaluation being conducted;
- The type of noncompliant fuel used, the bunker delivery note, and its sulfur level (percent by weight);
- The time period when noncompliant fuel is used (date and local time); and
- The locations (longitude and latitude) when noncompliant fuel is used.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, UCR shall provide CARB with a final report, all official test data, vessel visit information, and all other project results by December 31, 2026. This information must describe the emissions testing and other data generated by the project, any operational issues encountered, and any other information relevant to the emissions testing project.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, during the exemption period covered by this Executive Order, Disney Cruise Line shall take all feasible measures to minimize the emissions from the engines listed in Table 1, including but not limited to avoiding the unnecessary operation of the engine on noncompliant fuel.

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BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, if the Executive Officer determines that the Temporary Experimental or Research Exemption is no longer warranted, the Executive Officer may modify or revoke this exemption after providing written notice to Disney Cruise Line of its intent to modify or revoke the exemption.

Executed at Sacramento, California this 10th day of March 2026.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bonnie Soriano".

Bonnie Soriano, Branch Chief,
Freight Activity Branch