



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

OFFICIAL

Quarterly Delegate Decisions *Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012*

January - March 2026

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Application Decisions – January to March 2026

Major Passenger Vessels

Temporary Licence Voyage Load
Ports – January to March 2026

General Licence Vessels

Temporary Licence Voyages
Completed by Cargo
January to March 2026

Contact us

Temporary Licence Voyage
Discharge Ports – January to
March 2026

Temporary Licence Usage (by Cargo) - January to March 2025 vs January to
March 2026

Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012

Objectives

Licences

Considerations for Approval

Grounds for Refusal

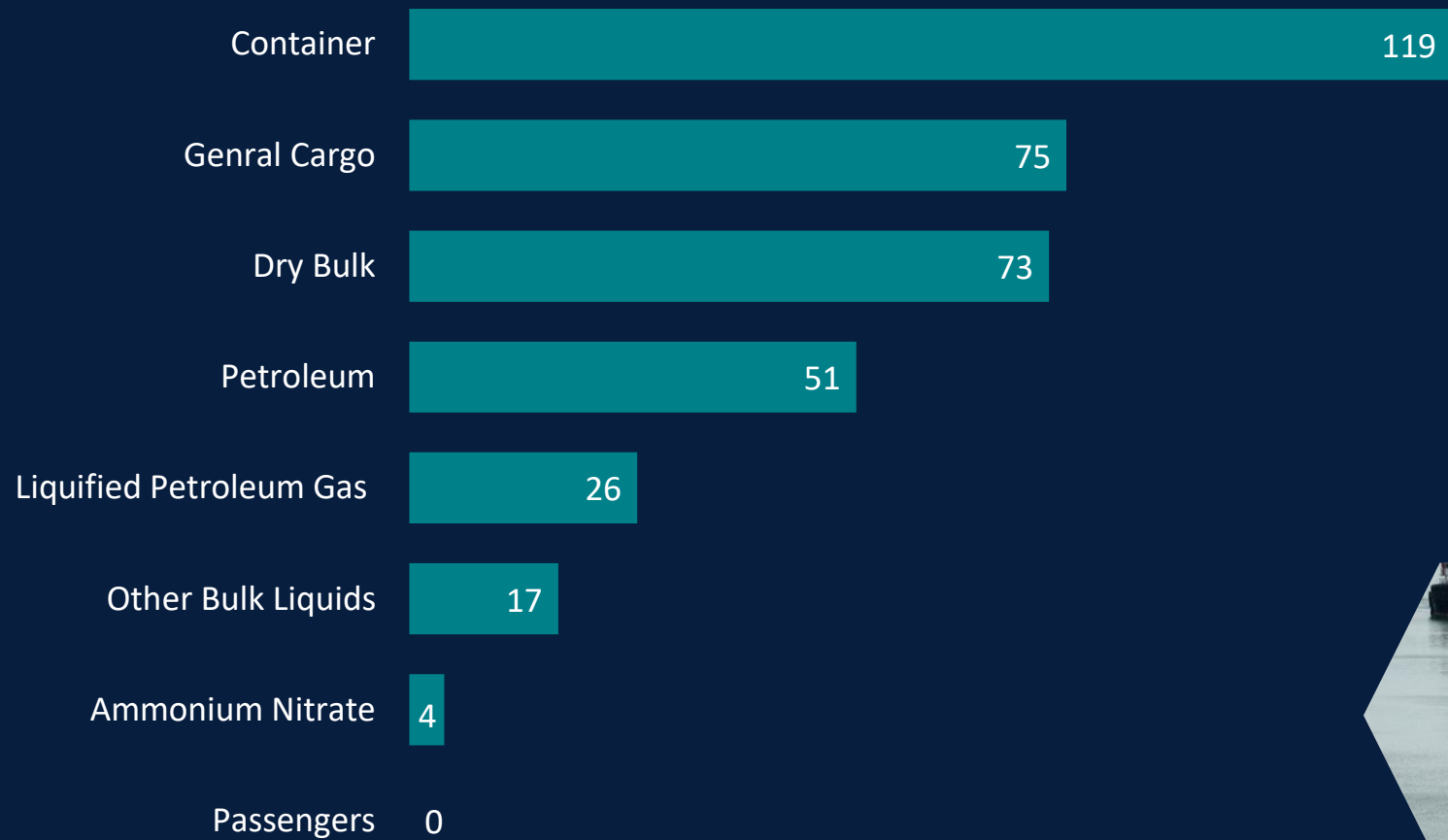
Application Decisions – January to March 2026

<i>Application Type</i>	<i>Applications Approved</i>	<i>Applications Refused</i>	<i>Notices in Response</i>	<i>Applications Withdrawn</i>
General Licence	3	0	0	0
Temporary Licence	8	0	0	0
Temporary Licence (New Matters)	95	0	0	0
Temporary Licence (Authorised Matters)	159	0	0	1
Temporary Licence (Energy/Security)	0	0	0	0

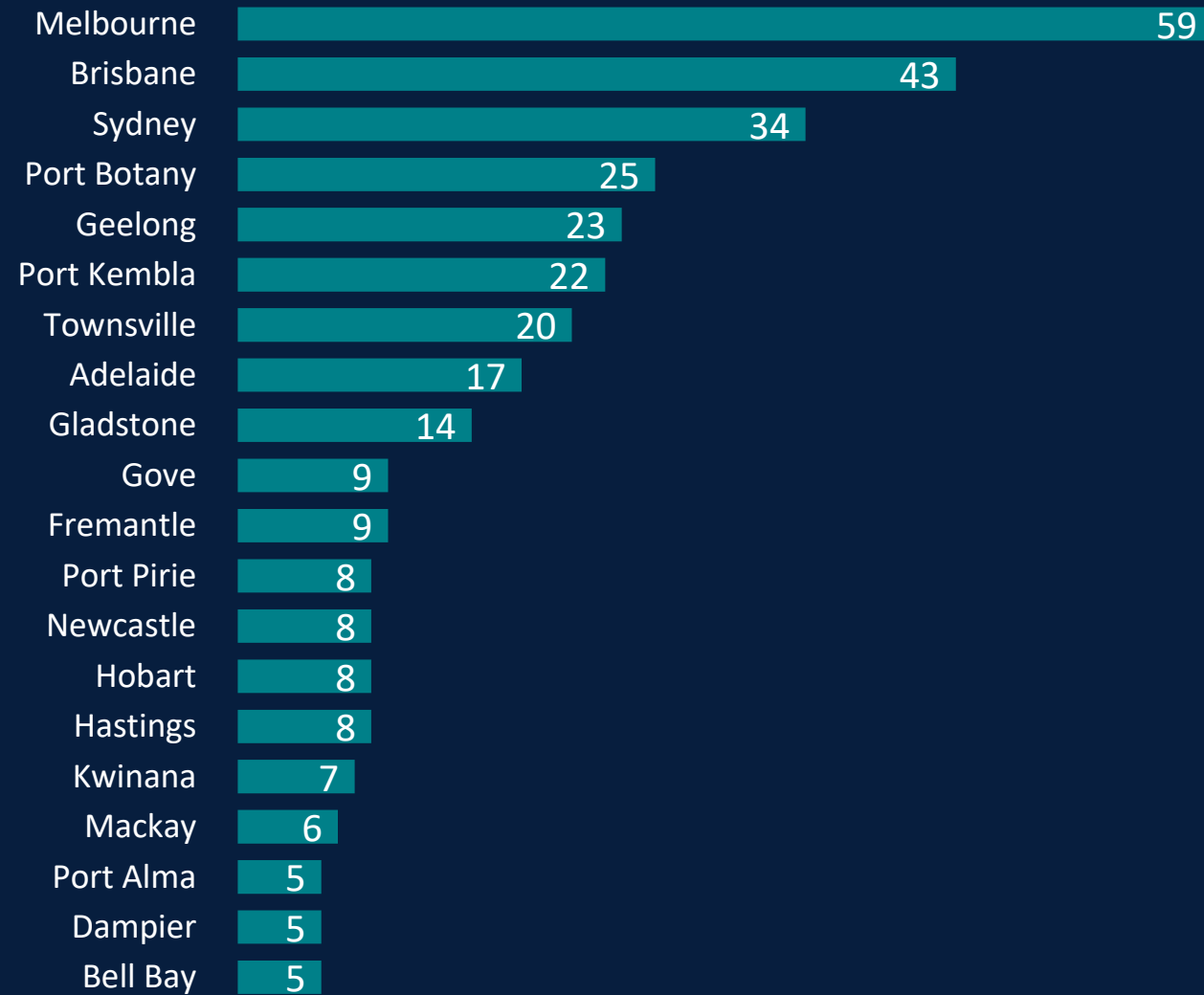
The Department also received 23 Section 12 Declarations, with 5 declarations withdrawn.



Temporary Licence Voyages Completed by Cargo – January to March 2026



Temporary Licence Voyage Load Ports - January to March 2026 (top 20)

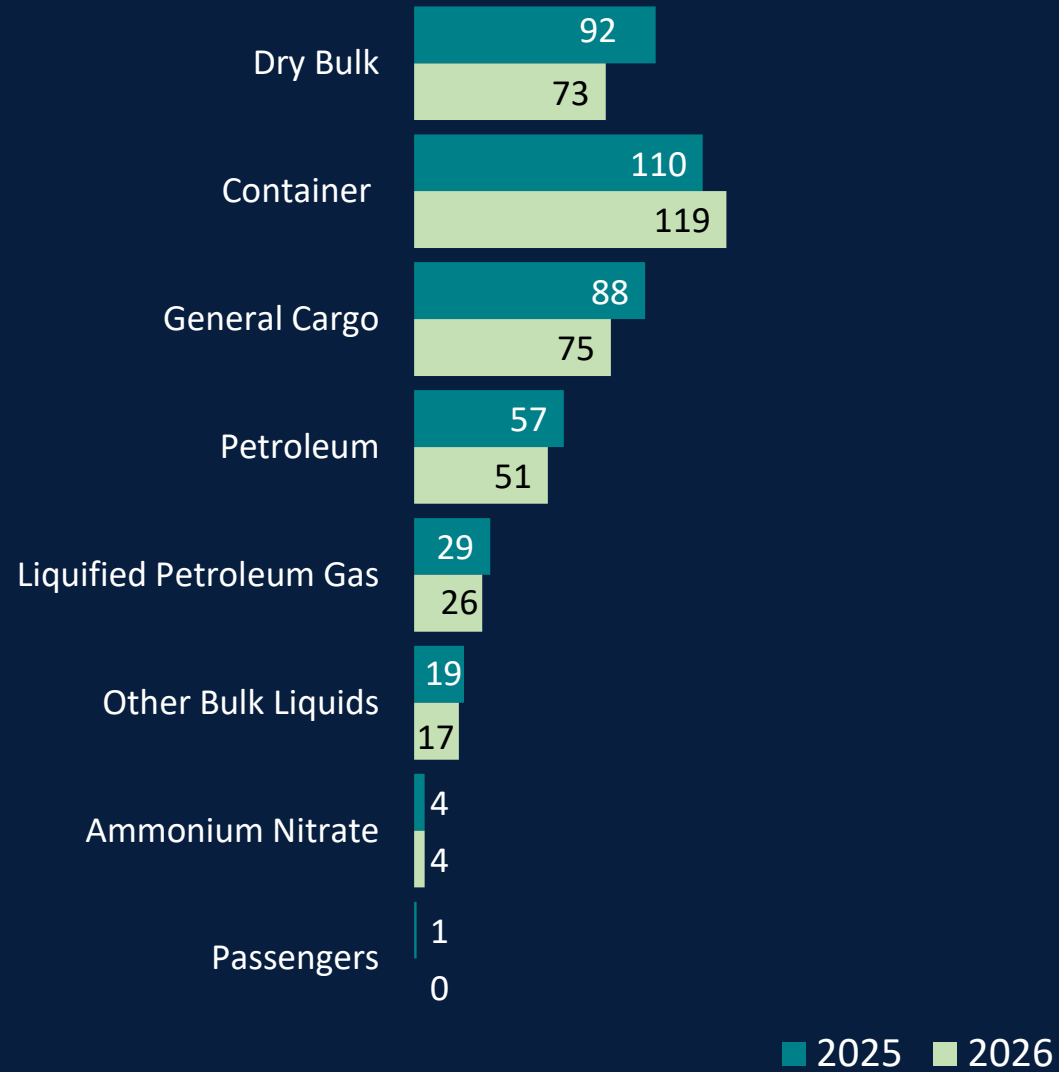


Temporary Licence Voyage Discharge Ports - January to March 2026 (top 20)

Fremantle	136
Gladstone	26
Brisbane	25
Hobart	20
Sydney	17
Port Kembla	16
Newcastle	15
Port Pirie	12
Adelaide	10
Bell Bay	8
Devonport	8
Townsville	8
Cairns	7
Geelong	7
Mackay	7
Melbourne	7
Portland	7
Kwinana	6
Botany	3
Port Alma	3



Temporary Licence Usage (by Cargo) – January to March 2025 vs January to March 2026



General Licence Vessels (Major Trading Fleet)

<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>General Licence Holder</i>	<i>Vessel Type</i>
Donnacona	CSL Australia	Self-Discharging Bulk Carrier
Goliath	CSL Australia	Cement Carrier
Tasmanian Achiever II	Strait Link QS Pty Ltd	Ro-Ro Cargo Ship
Victorian Reliance II	Strait Link QS Pty Ltd	Ro-Ro Cargo Ship
MV Liekut	SeaRoad Shipping Pty Ltd	Ro-Ro Cargo Ship
Accolade II	Inco Ships	Limestone Carrier
Searoad Mersey II	SeaRoad Shipping Pty Ltd	Ro-Ro Cargo Ship
Spirit of Tasmania I	TT Line Company Pty Ltd	Passenger/Ro-Ro Ship
Spirit of Tasmania II	TT Line Company Pty Ltd	Passenger/Ro-Ro Ship
Newcastle Bay	Sea Swift Pty Ltd	General Cargo
John Duigan	ASP Ship Management Pty Ltd	Landing Craft



Major Passenger Vessels

<i>Vessel Name</i>	<i>General Licence Holder</i>
Coral Geographer	Coral Princess Cruises (NQ) Pty Ltd
Coral Adventurer	Coral Princess Cruises (NQ) Pty Ltd
Coral Discoverer	Coral Princess Cruises (NQ) Pty Ltd
True North	North Star Cruises
True North II	North Star Cruises



Objectives

The objectives of the *Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012* (Coastal Trading Act) are to provide a regulatory framework for coastal trading in Australia that:

- (a) promotes a viable shipping industry that contributes to the broader Australian economy.
- (b) facilitates the long-term growth of the Australian shipping industry.
- (c) enhances the efficiency and reliability of Australian shipping as part of the national transport system.
- (d) maximises the use of vessels registered in the Australian General Shipping Register in coastal trading.
- (e) promotes competition in coastal trading.
- (f) ensures efficient movement of passengers and cargo between Australian ports.

Source: Section 3 of the Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012



Licences

The *Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012* provides for three types of licence: general licences, temporary licences and emergency licences.

A general licence is for Australian General Shipping Register vessels (Australian flagged vessels) and provides unrestricted access to engage in coastal trading in Australian waters for five years.

A temporary licence provides access to engage in coastal trading in Australian waters for foreign-flagged vessels—this licence is valid for 12 months and is limited to the voyages authorised by the licence. Voyages can be amended or added to a temporary licence through new matters, authorised matters or energy security situation variations.

An emergency licence provides access to engage in coastal trading in Australian waters in identified emergency situations – this licence may be granted for up to 30 days.

The definition of coastal trading excludes intrastate trading (movements from a port in a state or territory to another port in the same state or territory). An applicant seeking the *Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012* to apply to a particular vessel that will undertake intrastate trading can apply for a declaration under section 12 of the *Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012*.

Under section 11 of the Act, the Minister may exempt certain vessels or persons. The current section 11 exemptions include:

- cruise vessels
- voyages between Norfolk Island and Australian states and territories
- voyages between Christmas Island and Australian states and territories
- voyages between Cocos (Keeling) Island and Australian states and territories

Considerations for Approval

Depending on the type of licence, in deciding an application, the Minister (or the delegate) may have regard to the following (whether or not the Minister (or delegate) receives a notice in response in relation to the application):

- whether the applicant has previously held or applied for a licence.
- whether the applicant has previously held a licence that was cancelled.
- whether the applicant has been issued with an infringement notice under this Act.
- the object of the Act.
- any other matters the Minister thinks relevant.

In addition, for temporary licences the Minister may also have regard for:

- if the application relates to cargo and a vessel registered in the Australian International Shipping Register—both:
 - (i) whether the applicant owns the cargo and the vessel; and
 - (ii) whether the cargo is to be carried on the vessel;
- any written comments received by the Minister in relation to the application.
- any report given to the Department by the applicant under section 62.

If the Minister receives one or more notices in response in relation to an application, the Minister must have regard to the following in deciding the application:

- the outcome of negotiations, as notified by the applicant.
- whether, and to what extent, the vessel authorised by the holder's general licence is equipped to carry the passengers or cargo specified in the application.
- whether those passengers or cargo can be carried on the expected loading dates or within 5 days before or after the relevant date.
- if the application relates to the carriage of cargo—the reasonable requirements of a shipper of the kind of cargo specified in the application.

Source: Section 15 of the Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012



Grounds for Refusal

In refusing a Temporary Licence, or a variation to a temporary licence, the Minister may have regard to the following.

- The considerations outlined in section 34(2) of the *Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012*
- (if a notice in response is received) section 34(3) of the *Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012*

Note that section 34(4) of the *Coastal Trading (Revitalising Australian Shipping) Act 2012* requires any refusal to be made within 15 business days after the day the application is made.



Contact Us

The Department has a central contact point for mail and telephone communications.

The Shipping Business Unit is located at the Department's Canberra Office.



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Please note that the Department has a privacy policy demonstrating its commitment to protecting personal privacy.

