

Power supply to vessels during berthing at Damietta port - Egypt



As per the Decree number 1130 issued by the Egyptian Ministry of Transport in 2015 and applied in 2017, Damietta Port Authority has decided to be responsible for supplying electrical power to all berthing vessels at a cost of 50 cents / kilo watt hour.

This is a compulsory decree depriving the vessels from using their own generators, unless during loading or discharging operations, in which case they still have to pay an amount equal to the estimated shore power they would have consumed if using the Port's service.

Below is the English Translation of the Decree:

Article 1: *The shutting down of all engines and generators of the vessels that berth at Damietta Port.*

Article 2: *The Damietta Port Authority will be responsible for providing electrical current to the vessels in order to be able to get its basic needs like lighting etc.*

Article 3: *In the case that the vessel operates her loading and discharge gear will be using her own generators.*

Article 4: *The port authority will charge 50 cents / kilo watt hour for providing the service in order to be able to pay for repair works and maintenance on the electrical systems.*

Article 5: *Any opposing decisions will be cancelled.*

Article 6: *This decision shall be drawn up in the selected facts and shall come into effect as of the day following the date of its election on 25/11/2015.*

Chairman

Naval Admiral / Ayman Saleh Ibrahim

Apart from the extra dues that the vessels are obliged to pay to Damietta Port Authority, it has been noticed that the shore power is frequently lower than the required level, which is likely to damage the vessel's equipment and cause delays and extra costs.

These concerns were expressed and in January 2018 a second Ministerial Decree was issued, altering the compulsory character of the use of the shore power to optional.

So, the vessel can now use her own power, upon notifying the electricity department of Damietta Port Authority, but she is still obliged to pay the value of the estimated shore power that would have been consumed, if used.

Below is the translation of the latest Decree:

Ministry of Transport

Damietta Port Authority

Infrastructure Central Department

Administrative decree no. 5 of the year 2018 dated 4/1/2018

After reviewing the law no. 61 of the year 1963 and the law no. 81 of the year 2016 regarding civil service and the presidential decree no. 317 of the year 1985 concerning establishing Damietta Port Authority and from what we have reviewed we decide as follows:

Article One: *Arrangements for connecting electrical supply to vessels berthed on quays:*

- 1- The operations department is to be notified after vessel is berthed by the central movement control department.
- 2- The electricity department is to be informed by the operations department after completion of immigration and quarantine procedures.
- 3- The electricity department is to determine the possibility of connecting the power supply as per the regulations in the presence of the relevant supervisor.
- 4- In case of rejection of the Master to make the connection, the central movement control department is notified to take the necessary action.
- 5- The Master can be permitted to disconnect the power supply through the electricity department to operate emergency loads (ballast pumps, cranes etc..) which are greater than the lawful load for 10 hours during the presence of the vessel until departure and after being notified by the movement control department.
- 6- In case of the Master's request to disconnect the shore supply for a period of more than the one mentioned above then the supply will be calculated based on the vessel's rate.
- 7- In case the Master disconnects the power supply and operating vessel's generators without notifying the official authorities then the consumption rate will be as per vessel's rate.
- 8- In case the master does not confirm and approve the consumption report then it will be dealt with as if approved.
- 9- In case of bad treatment to the technical team or delaying or preventing their work the central movement department is notified.

Yours faithfully

Admiral Ayman Salem

Chairman

Dated 4/1/2018

In conclusion, the Port has managed to increase its US Dollars income, while the ship-owners are still in control of the power supplied to their property. In addition, the amounts due to be paid for the electricity consumption are surely smaller than the value of fixing or replacing damaged equipment.

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