

10. Work permits

10.1 General

In order to be able to perform certain work on ships in the port of Abbot Point, Masters, owners or their agents must first apply for and obtain the necessary permits before that work can proceed.

- Repair and maintenance work – due to the exposed nature of the berth, routine engine repairs and maintenance are not permitted.
- Life boat drills – the agent is required to notify the Regional Harbour Master, Customs (Australian Border Force) and the quarantine services prior to any boat being lowered into the water.

10.2 Work permits – description

10.2.1 Hot Work whilst alongside

Hot Works (welding, gas cutting, grinding producing sparks, and so on) are NOT PERMITTED anywhere on or within the ship, whilst along-side at Abbot Point.

10.2.2 Hot Work whilst at anchorage

Ships intending to carry out Hot Works (welding, gas cutting, grinding producing sparks, and so on) at Abbot Point anchorage must apply for permission from the Regional Harbour Master in the prescribed form during normal business hours.

Master to provide the following information

- Location of works (Engine room workshop; engine room; tank; cargo hold; main deck; accommodation)
- Whether the ship is loaded, partially loaded or in ballast
- Declaration from Master that all safety precautions are implemented.

Abbot Point VTS will notify the Master if the request is approved and conditions of approval.

10.2.3 Immobilisation main engines whilst alongside

The immobilisation of ship's engines whilst alongside the Abbot Point Offshore Facility or whilst at anchor within port limits is not permitted by the Regional Harbour Master.

10.2.4 Immobilisation main engines whilst at anchorage

Ships intending to immobilise main engine/s to undertake routine maintenance at Abbot Point Anchorage must apply for permission from the Regional Harbour Master in the prescribed form (16.7 Request to immobilise Main Engines whilst at anchorage), during normal business hours.

During cyclone season (November to April), permission may not be given for more than 24 hours during the cyclone season.

Outside of cyclone season April to November permission may not be given for more than 48 hours

10.2.5 Oversight maintenance whilst alongside (hull painting, hull cleaning, and so on)

For environmental reasons, the North Queensland Bulk Ports, Abbot Point Terminal has strict guidelines on the performance of oversight maintenance work on ships within the port limits. Ships wishing to undertake oversight maintenance work must:

- Lodge a request with the North Queensland Bulk Ports for permission to undertake oversight work. When granted, masters must comply with the conditions of the permit.

10.2.6 Oversight maintenance whilst at anchorage (hull painting, hull cleaning, and so on)

A vessel at anchor outside port limits will require a permit to undertake oversight maintenance work and is at anchor, outside the Port limits. All Abbot Point anchorages are in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Master/Agent must apply to GBRMPA for a permit noting a processing fee and an application assessment timeframe of 16 weeks may be applicable.

The use of permits helps the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) ensure the conservation and sustainable use of the Great Barrier Reef's state and Commonwealth Marine Parks.

More information on GBRMPA [Permits](#) and [Permit application assessment fees](#) are available from their website