Coast Guard, DHS § 153.977

(c) All cargo vapor is returned to shore through the valved connection on the venting system if:

(1) The cargo requires closed gauging, is referenced to §153.372 or is referenced to §153.525;
(2) The transfer terminal has vapor return equipment; and
(3) In his estimation the vapor return equipment is adequate to handle the vapor expected from the tank.

§ 153.972 Connecting a cargo hose.

The person in charge of cargo transfer may not authorize the connection of a hose to a cargo containment system unless:

(a) He has ensured himself that the cargo will not weaken or damage the hose;
(b) The hose is marked as meeting the standards of §153.940;
(c) The date of the hose’s last pressure test is within one year of the date on which the hose is used to transfer cargo;
(d) The recommended working pressure marked on a hose used for discharge meets or exceeds the working pressure marked on the cargo piping at the hose connection; and
(e) The cargo’s temperature is within the manufacturer’s recommended maximum and minimum hose temperatures.

§ 153.975 Preparation for cargo transfer.

The person in charge of cargo transfer may not approve or continue cargo transfer unless the following conditions are met:

(a) No fires or open flames are on deck or in compartments near the hose connections when Table 1 requires the cargo’s containment system to have a fire protection system.
(b) Any electrical bonding of the tankship to the transfer facility is made before the cargo transfer piping is joined.
(c) Any supplemental inert gas supply necessary to maintain the 3.5 kPa gauge (approx. 0.5 psig) pressure in the tank during offloading (see §153.500) is connected to the inert gas pressure control system.

(d) The transfer connections have enough slack to allow for vessel movement.
(e) The transfer connections are supported by tackles.
(f) The cargo high level alarms, tank overflow alarms and overflow control systems are functioning correctly when the cargo is loaded.
(g) Joints and couplings are gasketed and mated tightly.
(h) Flanges are bolted tightly.
(i) No repair work is underway in areas where cargo or cargo vapors may collect.
(j) Cargo and sea valves are properly set, with those sea valves connected to cargo piping lashed or sealed shut.
(k) Venting system bypass valves are set for cargo transfer and are operating properly.
(l) All scuppers are plugged.
(m) Smoking is limited to safe places.
(n) Fire fighting and safety equipment is ready.
(o) He is in effective communication with the transfer terminal.
(p) The person in charge of the transfer terminal has acknowledged that he is ready to transfer.
(q) Pressures within the cargo transfer and containment systems do not exceed the pressure ranges for which the transfer hose and containment systems are designed.
(r) No vessels that would hazard cargo transfer are alongside the tankship.

§ 153.976 Transfer of packaged cargo or ship’s stores.

The person in charge of cargo transfer may neither begin nor continue the transfer of a flammable or combustible cargo while packaged cargo or ship’s stores are transferred unless transfer of the packaged cargo or ship’s stores does not hazard transfer of the flammable or combustible cargo.

§ 153.977 Supervision of cargo transfer.

The person in charge of cargo transfer shall: