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1 Application of a hydroxyl-radical-based disinfection system for ballast

2 water

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13 **ABSTRACT:**

A hydroxyl radical (•OH) ballast water treatment system (BWTS) was developed and applied 14 to inactivate entrained organisms in a 10,000-ton oceanic ship, where •OH was produced by a 15 strong ionization discharge combined with a water jet cavitation effect. The calculated •OH 16 generation rate was 1373.4 µM min⁻¹ in ballast water, which is much higher than that in other 17 advanced oxidative processes such as photocatalysis. As a result, non-indigenous red tide 18 algae were inactivated to meet the ballast water discharge standards (< 10 cells mL^{-1}) of the 19 International Maritime Organization. The ratio of variable fluorescence to maximum 20 fluorescence (F_v/F_m) for algal chlorophyll rapidly decreased to zero within a contact time of 21 only 6 s, indicating complete inactivation of algae. Observation under a scanning electron 22 microscope showed no cellular materials were released by algal cells upon •OH inactivation. A 23 risk assessment of the •OH treatment system was conducted, and the ratios of predicted 24 environmental concentrations to predicted no effect concentrations of all detected disinfection 25 byproducts were less than 1, even at a worst-case oxidant concentration of 2.41 mg L⁻¹. Ship 26

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