

COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE ADVISORY

PORTABLE DIESEL ENGINE AIR TOXIC CONTROL MEASURE: VENTURA COUNTY APCD TO SUSPEND ENFORCEMENT OF FLEET AVERAGE EMISSION STANDARDS FOR 2017

Background

In 2004, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) adopted the Portable Diesel Engine Air Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) to control emissions of diesel particulate matter (DPM) from portable diesel engines rated at 50 or more horsepower operating in California. The current version of the ATCM became effective in 2011. It requires that, beginning January 1, 2013, portable diesel engines registered under the Statewide Portable Equipment Registration Program Regulation (PERP) or permitted by a local air district, comply with a "fleet average emission standard" for that engine size category. Future fleet average emission standard compliance dates are January 1, 2017 and January 1, 2020.

ARB has determined that widespread compliance with the 2017 and 2020 fleet average emission standards for DPM may not be feasible. ARB intends to amend the fleet average emission standards for DPM that become effective in 2017 and 2020. The PERP regulation will also be amended to align it with any changes made to the ATCM. ARB will initiate rulemaking in early 2017 to amend these standards.

Because of upcoming revisions to the ATCM and PERP regulation, ARB will not enforce, and is advising the local air districts to suspend future enforcement activities regarding the 2017 fleet average emission standards and related reporting requirements until the regulatory amendments have become effective. In December of 2015, ARB issued Advisory Number 347 to inform owners and operators of the upcoming amendments to the regulations and its intention to suspend enforcement of the 2017 standard.

You may download a PDF copy of ARB Advisory Number 347 and a Q & A document at:

https://ww3.arb.ca.gov/enf/advs/advs347.pdf

Policy

In light of Advisory Number 347, the upcoming revisions to the ATCM and the PERP regulation, and in an effort to maintain consistency with ARB and other California air districts, the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District will suspend enforcement of the 2017 fleet standards and related reporting requirements until the regulatory amendments have become effective.

Under PERP, only the most current tier engines, and engines manufactured under the flexibility provisions (flex engines), are eligible for initial engine registration. All other PERP regulation and ATCM provisions will remain in effect, including current engine eligibility requirements, and provisions requiring all uncertified (Tier 0) engines to be removed from service no later than January 1, 2017. All local air district permit requirements for these engines will remain in effect.

If you have any questions regarding the APCD's enforcement of the portable diesel engine ATCM, please contact Eric Wetherbee, Compliance Supervisor at (805) 645 – 1496 or eric@vcapcd.org.