



Air Pollution Control Board

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August 28, 2007

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP

FOR DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

RULE 61.4 – TRANSFER OF VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS INTO VEHICLE FUEL TANKS

AND

RULE 61.4.1 – TRANSFER OF GASOLINE FROM STATIONARY UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS INTO VEHICLE FUEL TANKS

The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (District) will hold a public meeting to discuss proposed amendments to Rule 61.4 – Transfer of Volatile Organic Compounds into Vehicle Fuel Tanks and Rule 61.4.1 – Transfer of Gasoline from Stationary Underground Storage Tanks into Vehicle Fuel Tanks. Comments and questions concerning the proposal may be submitted in writing before or made at the meeting, which is scheduled as followed:

DATE: Thursday, October 18, 2007

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**PLACE: Al Bahr Shrine
5440 Kearny Mesa Road
San Diego, CA**

Rule 61.4 regulates the transfer of volatile organic compounds (VOC) from underground and aboveground storage tanks into vehicle fuel tanks. It was last revised in 1990. The rule has been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is included in the State Implementation Plan. Rule 61.4 requires the majority of fuel dispensing facilities to install and maintain California Air Resources Board (CARB) certified Phase II vapor recovery (VR) systems that control VOC emissions. In 2006, the District adopted new Rule 61.4.1 pursuant to State requirements, that regulates the transfer of gasoline from stationary underground storage tanks into vehicle fuel tanks. This rule requires the majority of gasoline dispensing facilities to install and maintain by specified dates CARB certified Phase II Enhanced Vapor Recovery (EVR) systems that further reduce VOC emissions.

All model year 2000 and newer passenger cars have been equipped with On-Board Refueling Vapor Recovery (ORVR). Starting in 2006, all light duty trucks, Sport Utility Vehicles, and

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medium duty trucks were also required to be equipped with ORVR. ORVR systems capture gasoline vapors displaced from the vehicle fuel tank in an onboard canister filled with activated carbon and transfers the vapors to the engine and, together with exhaust gases, routes them to the catalytic converter. ORVR is expected to reduce VOC emissions during vehicle refueling by at least 95% and to be at least as efficient as Phase II EVR System. In 2006, EPA issued guidance to the States authorizing the removal of Phase II VR systems where it is determined that ORVR is in widespread use throughout the vehicle fleet. Widespread use means that at least 95% of all vehicles refueled at a gasoline dispensing facility are ORVR-equipped.

Therefore, the District is proposing to amend both Rules 61.4 and 61.4.1 to provide an exemption from the Phase II VR or EVR requirements, as applicable, for non-retail facilities where at least 95% of vehicles refueled are equipped with ORVR. Both rules will also provide an exemption from the Phase II VR or EVR requirements for facilities that refuel Flexible Fuel vehicles operating on E-85 (gasoline-ethanol blend). Flexible Fuel vehicles are already equipped with ORVR.

Lastly, Rule 61.4 will be revised by including source testing and recordkeeping provisions to comply with EPA requirements.

Specifically, proposed amended Rules 61.4 and 61.4.1 will:

- Exempt the transfer of gasoline from stationary storage tanks into vehicle fuel tanks at non-retail facilities from the requirement to be controlled by the Phase II VR or EVR system, as applicable, provided that 95% of all vehicles refueled are equipped with ORVR and the Phase II system, if previously installed, has been properly removed.
- Require the owner or operator of a gasoline dispensing facility qualified for the above exemption to maintain records of the make, model year, vehicle identification number and any other information for all vehicles refueling at such facilities and indicating whether they are equipped with ORVR.
- Exempt the transfer of E-85 from stationary storage tanks into Flexible Fuel vehicle tanks at any retail or non-retail facility from the requirement to be controlled by the Phase II VR or EVR system, as applicable.

Rule 61.4.1 will also be revised to specify that any person conducting emission tests must complete both the South Coast Air Quality Management District's orientation class for testing and alternative training approved by the District.

Rule 61.4 will be updated to include emission testing and recordkeeping requirements, and test methods similar to those in Rule 61.4.1. All outdated provisions in Rule 61.4 will be deleted or revised.

If you would like a copy of proposed amended Rules 61.4 or 61.4.1, please access the District's website at www.sdacpd.org under Rules and Regulations, Public Workshop. If you have any questions concerning the proposal, please contact Angela Durr at (858) 586-2753 or Natalie Yates at (858) 586-2756.

Rosa Maria Abreu, Assistant Director
Air Pollution Control District

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