ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[AMS–FRL–9126–4]

California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; California Nonroad Compression Ignition Engines—In-Use Fleets; Authorization Request; Opportunity for Public Hearing and Comment

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of opportunity for public hearing and comment.

SUMMARY: The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has notified EPA that it has adopted amendments to its emission standards for fleets that operate nonroad, diesel fueled equipment with engines 25 horsepower (hp) and greater. EPA previously announced an opportunity for public hearing and written comment on CARB’s initial request for an authorization of its original regulations (73 FR 58585 (October 7, 2008) and 73 FR 67509 (November 14, 2008)). By this notice EPA is announcing an additional public hearing and a written comment period.

DATES: EPA has scheduled a public hearing CARB’s request on April 14, 2010, beginning at 10 a.m. The hearing will be held at 1310 L St., NW., Washington, DC 20005. Parties wishing to present oral testimony at the public hearing should provide written notification to David Dickinson at the address noted below. Should you have further questions regarding the hearing please contact David Dickinson or you may consult the following Web site for any updates: http://www.epa.gov/otaq/cafr.htm. Any party may submit written comment by May 18, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2008–0691, by one of the following methods:
- E-mail: a-and-r-docket@epa.gov.
- Fax: (202) 566–1741.

Hand Delivery: EPA Docket Center, Public Reading Room, EPA West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20460. Such deliveries are only accepted during the Docket’s normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

Instructions: Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA–HQ–OAR–2008–0691. EPA’s policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through http://www.regulations.gov or e-mail. The http://www.regulations.gov Web site is an “anonymous access” system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA without going through http://www.regulations.gov, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD–ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic comments should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses. For additional information about EPA’s public docket visit the EPA Docket Center homepage at http://www.epa.gov/epahome/dockets.htm.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
David Dickinson, Compliance and Innovative Strategies Division (6405J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW., Washington, DC 20460. Telephone: (202) 343–9256, Fax: (202) 343–2804, e-mail address: Dickinson.David@EPA.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
Background and Discussion: Section 209(e)(1) of the Act addresses the permanent preemption of any State, or political subdivision thereof, from adopting or attempting to enforce any standard or other requirement relating to the control of emissions for certain new nonroad engines or vehicles. Section 209(e)(2) of the Act requires the Administrator to grant California authorization to enforce State standards for new nonroad engines or vehicles which are not listed under section 209(e)(1), subject to certain restrictions. On July 20, 1994, EPA promulgated a regulation that sets forth, among other things, the criteria, as found in section 209(e)(2), by which EPA must consider any California authorization requests for new nonroad engines or vehicle emission standards (section 209(e) rules).

Section 209(e)(2) requires the Administrator, after notice and opportunity for public hearing, to authorize California to enforce standards and other requirements relating to emissions control of new engines not listed under section 209(e)(1). The section 209(e) rule and its codified regulations formally set forth the criteria, located in section 209(e)(2) of the Act, by which EPA must grant California authorization to enforce its new nonroad emission standards and they are as follows:

1 Section 209(e)(1) states, in part: No State or any political subdivision thereof shall adopt or attempt to enforce any standard or other requirement relating to the control of emissions from either of the following new nonroad engines or nonroad vehicles subject to regulation under this Act—
(A) New engines which are used in construction equipment or vehicles or used in farm equipment or vehicles and which are smaller than 175 horsepower.
(B) New locomotives or new engines used in locomotives.

EPA’s regulation was published at 59 FR 36969 (July 20, 1994), and regulations set forth therein, 40 CFR Part 85, Subpart Q, §§85.1601 et seq. A new rule, signed on September 4, 2008, moves these provisions to 40 CFR Part 1074.

2 See 40 CFR Part 85, Subpart Q, §85.1605. Upon effectiveness of the new rule, these criteria will be codified at 40 CFR 1074.105.
(a) The Administrator shall grant the authorization if California determines that California standards will be, in the aggregate, at least as protective of public health and welfare as applicable Federal standards.

(b) The authorization shall not be granted if the Administrator finds that:

(1) The determination of California is arbitrary and capricious;

(2) California does not need such California standards to meet compelling and extraordinary conditions; or

(3) California standards and accompanying enforcement procedures are not consistent with section 209.

As stated in the preamble to the section 209(e) rule, EPA has interpreted the requirement “California standards and accompanying enforcement procedures are not consistent with section 209” to mean that California standards and accompanying enforcement procedures must be consistent with section 209(a), section 209(e)(1), and section 209(b)(1)(C), as EPA has determined in that subsection in the context of motor vehicle waivers.\(^3\) In order to be consistent with section 209(a), California’s nonroad standards and enforcement procedures must not apply to new motor vehicles or new motor vehicle engines. Secondly, California’s nonroad standards and enforcement procedures must be consistent with section 209(e)(1), which identifies the categories permanently preempted from State regulation.\(^4\) California’s nonroad standards and enforcement procedures would be considered inconsistent with section 209 if they applied to the categories of engines or vehicles identified and preempted from State regulation in section 209(e)(1).

Finally, because California’s nonroad standards and enforcement procedures must be consistent with section 209(b)(1)(C), EPA reviews nonroad authorization requests under the same “consistency” criteria that are applied to motor vehicle waiver requests. Under section 209(b)(1)(C), the Administrator shall not grant California a motor vehicle waiver if he finds that California “standards and accompanying enforcement procedures are not consistent with section 202(a)” of the Act. Previous decisions granting waivers of Federal preemption for motor vehicles have stated that State standards are inconsistent with section 202(a) if there is inadequate lead time to permit the development of the necessary technology giving appropriate

capricious, (b) California needs separate standards to meet compelling and extraordinary conditions, and (c) California’s standards and accompanying enforcement procedures are consistent with section 209 of the Act.

Procedures for Public Participation: In recognition that public hearings are designed to give interested parties an opportunity to participate in this proceeding, there are no adverse parties as such. Statements by participants will not be subject to cross-examination by other participants without special approval by the presiding officer. The presiding officer is authorized to strike from the record statements that he or she deems irrelevant or repetitious and to impose reasonable time limits on the duration of the statement of any participant.

Persons with comments containing proprietary information must distinguish such information from other comments to the greatest possible extent and label it as Confidential Business Information (CBI). If a person making comments wants EPA to base its decision in part on a submission labeled CBI, then a non-confidential version of the document that summarizes the key data or information should be submitted for the public docket. To ensure that proprietary information is not inadvertently placed in the docket, submissions containing such information should be sent directly to the contact person listed above and not to the public docket. Information covered by a claim of confidentiality will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent allowed and by the procedures set forth in 40 CFR Part 2. If no claim of confidentiality accompanies the submission when EPA receives it, EPA will make it available to the public without further notice to the person making comments.

Dated: March 5, 2010.
Margo Tsirigotis Oge,
Director, Office of Transportation and Air Quality, Office of Air and Radiation.

\[\text{[FR Doc. 2010–5481 Filed 3–11–10; 8:45 am]}

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER–FRL–8988–8]

Environmental Impacts Statements; Notice of Availability


\[\text{1See 50 FR 36969, 36983 (July 20, 1994).}

\[\text{2Section 209(e)(1) of the Act has been codified at 40 CFR Part 85, Subpart Q–85.1602, 85.1603. Upon effectiveness of the new rule noted above, these permanently preempted categories will be codified at 40 CFR 1074.10, 1074.11.}

\[\text{3To be consistent, the California certification procedures need not be identical to the Federal certification procedures. California procedures would be inconsistent, however, if manufacturers would be unable to meet both the State and the Federal requirement with the same test vehicle in the course of the same test. See, e.g., 43 FR 32182 (July 25, 1978).}

\[\text{4}73 \text{ FR 58585 (October 7, 2008) and 73 FR 67509 (November 14, 2008).}