



COMPLIANCE ADVISORY

December 18, 2014

Agricultural Engine Use

This advisory is to address a few recent questions regarding the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's (District's) ag engine registration program:

- 1) Upcoming deadlines to retire Tier 1 and Tier 2 engines
- 2) Use of older 'low-use' and 'intermittent-use' engines during the drought
- 3) Purchasing used engines
- 4) Registration of existing engines which you own, but didn't previously register
- 5) Federal requirements for stationary engines

- 1) If your agricultural engine has an orange registration sticker, the state deadline to stop using the engine is December 31, 2014. Engines with orange stickers will not appear on your 2015 annual invoice.

State law does not have any allowances for engines that have reached their compliance date. However our District Board adopted provisions to allow these engines to be used as either a 'low-use' engine (limited to 200 hours in any one year, with a total cap of 2,400 hours) or 'intermittent-use' engine (limited to 2,000 hours after the deadline, not to exceed 10 years). To convert your Tier 1 or Tier 2 engine to low or intermittent use, you must submit an application ([www.ysaqmd.org/forms/Form AG5 - Revised 01 2014.pdf](http://www.ysaqmd.org/forms/Form_AG5_Revvised_01_2014.pdf)) to the District, along with filing fees of \$288 (\$192 to modify the registration and \$96 for 2015 annual fees). Eligibility for a modified registration is dependent on the engine's operational location; as such, not all engines will qualify.

If your engine has a yellow sticker, the same provisions apply one year later (December 31, 2015).

- 2) If you are operating a 'low-use' or 'intermittent-use' engine, make sure you pay attention to your hour limit. Exceeding the hour limit can result in a violation. Due to the drought, if your engine is nearing the hour limit and is needed for additional use, you are encouraged to contact the District. If you come to us, especially with an engine that hasn't gone over the limits yet, we may be able to provide short term relief.
- 3) If you are purchasing an engine, be very careful of what you buy, especially if you are considering a used engine. The District strongly encourages you to contact us to determine if an engine is eligible for registration. **Do not purchase a Tier 0 engine.**

If you are buying an engine to replace an existing registered engine, you can purchase any engine that is EPA certified (Tier 1, 2, 3 or 4). If the replacement is a Tier 1 or Tier 2, the applicable compliance date will still apply; however that engine may be eligible for the low-use or intermittent use options described above. When registering the replacement engine, you need to specify what engine it is replacing.

If you are buying an engine that is not a replacement engine, the engine must be a Tier 4 engine unless you can demonstrate Tier 4 engines are not readily available in the size range needed. In that case, you can purchase a Tier 3 engine. The District highly recommends you get approval from the District prior to purchasing a non-replacement Tier 3 engine.

If you are buying a used engine that is currently registered with the District, the registration must be transferred over to you. The applicable compliance date will still apply.

- 4) If you have previously purchased new engines that have not been registered, you can register them now as long as you have proof the engine met the tier standard when the engine was acquired (proof being a dated purchase record). When you submit the registration application, you will need to provide the purchase date documentation. The applicable compliance date will still apply.
- 5) The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) adopted requirements that apply to stationary internal combustion engines under 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 63, Subpart ZZZZ. For diesel engines 300 horsepower and less, the requirements are:
 - a. Change the oil and filter every 1,000 hours or annually (whichever is sooner)*,
 - b. Inspect the air cleaner every 1,000 hours or annually (whichever is sooner) and replace as necessary,
 - c. Inspect all hoses and belts every 500 hours or annually (whichever is sooner) and replace as necessary,
 - d. Maintain the engine per manufacturer's instructions
 - f. Maintain records of maintenance for 5 years.

**You may choose to perform an oil analysis program to extend the specified oil change requirement. For more details on this option, contact the District.*

Funding Opportunities:

Funding opportunities are still available for engine-to-electric conversions (Moyer Program) and engine-to-engine replacements through the federal Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Contact the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District at 916-874-4800 or the Woodland office of NRCS at 530-662-2037 or the Dixon office of NRCS at 707-678-1931 for additional information.

BACKGROUND: As required by State law, the District Board adopted Rule 11.3 in July of 2008, which requires that each non-road agricultural engine over 50 hp in the District must be registered. The purpose of the registration program is to enforce the emission standards of the statewide Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/documents/FinalReg2011.pdf, which requires that older diesel engines be replaced over time.

The State adopted this regulation to protect public health because diesel particulate matter (PM) is a carcinogen and engines contribute to air pollution including ground level ozone. A 2014 diesel engine is 97% cleaner for Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) emissions and 99% cleaner for PM, compared to a 1994 diesel engine.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional information regarding this advisory, contact Paul Hensleigh at (530) 757-3650.