SOLID WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLE RULE VEHICLE APPLICABILITY

The California Air Resources Board's (ARB) Solid Waste Collection Vehicle rule was adopted in September of 2003 and is now in effect. The purpose of this advisory is to clarify the application of this rule-to vehicles not specifically designed to collect residential and commercial solid waste for a fee and not used primarily for that purpose.

As of December 31, 2004, every owner of one or more collection vehicles is required to maintain specified records concerning collection vehicles at each terminal, to maintain labels with specified information on each collection vehicle, and apply ARB-verified Best Available Control Technology (BACT) to each vehicle subject to the regulation based on a schedule. For more information regarding regulation requirements, please see Advisory Number 331.

A Solid Waste Collection Vehicle is defined as “… an on-road heavy-duty vehicle with a manufacturer’s gross weight rating of greater than 14,000 pounds used for the purpose of collecting residential and commercial solid waste for a fee, including roll off vehicles” (Title 13 California Code of Regulations 2021(b)). It is important to note that it is not the type of vehicle that determines whether it is subject to the regulation. Applicability depends on the type of work the vehicle does. A “solid waste collection vehicle,” as defined above, shall include both vehicles specifically-designed to collect residential and commercial solid waste for a fee, as well as those vehicles not specifically-designed to do so, if the vehicle is used to pick up residential and commercial solid waste for a fee.

“Residential and commercial solid waste” includes all putrescible (rotting) and nonputrescible (non-rotting) solid, and semisolid wastes, including garbage, trash, refuse, rubbish, ashes, yard waste, recyclable materials, industrial wastes, demolition and construction wastes, abandoned vehicles and parts thereof, discarded home and industrial appliances, manure, vegetable or animal solid and semisolid wastes, and other discarded solid and semisolid wastes originating from single-family or multiple family dwellings, stores, offices, and other commercial sources, and construction and demolition projects in residential and commercial zones, not including hazardous, radioactive, or medical waste (Title 13 California Code of Regulations Section 2021 (b)).

For purposes of this rule, solid waste does not include solid waste not picked up for a fee, “products” such as scrap metal picked up for free or purchased, dirt or other similar material when used as alternative daily cover at a solid waste landfill, and re-processable road materials, such as asphalt grindings, concrete, and aggregate when delivered to an appropriate road material recycling center for reuse rather than burial. Such an appropriate road material recycling center may be located at a solid waste landfill.
Vehicles such as a dump truck used primarily for hauling construction materials such as rock, sand and gravel and used only incidentally for hauling solid waste is not a solid waste collection vehicle for the purposes of this rule. “Incidental” is defined as no more than 10 percent of its operational days, up to 30 days, per year. Vehicle owners shall maintain documentation, on a per vehicle basis, of such incidental use.

View the rule at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/dieselswcv/dieselswcv.htm. Additional information for complying with the regulation, including fact sheets and Frequently Asked Questions, and for staff contact information to discuss the solid waste collection vehicle rule is available at http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/swcv/swcv.htm. If you have additional general questions about ARB’s programs, please contact ARB’s Public Information Office at 1-800-END-SMOG.