TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: DIFFERENTIATING A TRANSFER TRUCK FROM A SOLID WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES

The purpose of this advisory is to provide guidance for differentiating solid waste collection vehicles from transfer trucks, which are not subject to the Solid Waste Collection Vehicle (SWCV) Regulation (title 13, California Code of Regulations, section 2021). The determination on whether a vehicle is a SWCV is based on the type of work the vehicle does and not on the body type.

The SWCV Regulation defines a solid waste collection vehicle 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”.

In this definition, “residential and commercial solid waste” means all putrescible and nonputrescible 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.

In addition, "recyclable materials", includes but is not limited to glass, paper, construction and demolition debris, metals, rubber, plastics, electronic waste, wood, textiles, and other organic materials.

For the purpose of the SWCV regulation, a transfer truck is one that:

- moves solid waste between transfer stations and the landfill, or between facilities, or
- moves recyclable material from a collection point to a recycling sorting or processing facility, provided that the recyclables are not collected at residential curbsides or construction and demolition projects in residential and commercial zones.
commercial zones. A collection point maybe a recycling center located at a 
grocery store or at a sorting or processing center, where the patrons donate 
or are paid for their recyclables.

Vehicles used for the above purposes are classified as “transfer trucks” provided that 
they remain in transfer truck service. While not subject to the SWCV Regulation, a 
transfer truck may be subject to other diesel emission regulations, including the 
proposed statewide bus and truck regulation. Additional information on this proposed 
regulation may be found at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/publicfleets/publicfleets.htm

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kathleen Mead, Manager, at 
(916) 324-9550 or email at kmead@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief 
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Ms. Kathleen Mead, Manager 
Retrofit Implementation Section