ENFORCEMENT OF THE TRACTOR-TRAILER GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) REGULATION

On July 30, 2014, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) granted California a waiver pursuant to section 209(b) of the federal Clean Air Act for California’s Heavy-Duty Tractor-Trailer Greenhouse Gas Regulation (Tractor-Trailer GHG Regulation). This waiver authorizes the California Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) to enforce specific provisions of the Tractor-Trailer GHG Regulation applicable to 2011 through 2013 model year Class 8 tractors equipped with integrated sleeper berths and to 2011 and subsequent model year 53 foot and longer dry-van and refrigerated-van trailers that are pulled by such tractors on California highways. The Tractor-Trailer GHG Regulation is an important component of California’s efforts to reduce GHG emissions from the transportation sector.

Regulation Background

CARB enacted the Tractor-Trailer GHG Regulation to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from long-haul tractor-trailer combination vehicles operating in California. The regulation applies to all model year 53-foot or longer dry-van and refrigerated-van trailers (box-type trailers) and to Class 7 and Class 8 tractors that pull them on California highways. The regulation requires tractor-trailers operating in California to utilize tractors and box-type trailers that are either SmartWay certified or retrofitted with SmartWay verified aerodynamic devices (typically skirts, end fairings or undercarriage devices for the trailer and fairings for the tractor) and low rolling resistance (LRR) tires that meet specified fuel efficiency improvements.

Enforcement

When the Tractor-Trailer GHG Regulation became effective on January 1, 2010, the requirements of the regulation were fully enforceable for 2010 and older model year tractors and trailers; only the 2011 through 2013 model year tractors and 2011 and newer 53-foot box trailers required a waiver pursuant to section 209(b) of the federal Clean Air Act. With the issuance of the waiver from U.S. EPA, those provisions are now also enforceable.

1 Title 17, California Code of Regulations sections 95300-95312.
More Information

For further information about the requirements of the regulation, training, outreach efforts, compliance tools or the full text of the Tractor-Trailer GHG Regulation, please visit http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/truckstop/truckstop.htm or http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/hdghg/hdghg.htm, call 866 6DIESEL (866 634-3735), or email us at 8666diesel@arb.ca.gov.