



FIX-N-FAX

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5 - Minute Idle Policy and Procedures for On- or Off-Road Diesel Equipment LIMITED IDLE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

1. PURPOSE

CAL FIRE implementation of California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 13 Section 2449(d) (3) and (2) limiting idle time on all on- or off-road diesel motor vehicles and equipment in medium and large fleets.

2. BACKGROUND

California Air Resources Board-sponsored CCR Title 13 Section 2449(d) (3) limits engine idle time on in-use on-road diesel vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating, (GVWR), over 10,000 lbs to a 5 minute idle time. In addition, CCR Title 13 Section 2449(d) (2) (B) limits off-road diesel powered vehicles or equipment with a diesel engine horse power rating over 25 to a 5-minute idle time.

The CCR regulation also requires medium and large fleets to have a written policy for limiting diesel engine idle time. The CAL FIRE policy states that all CAL FIRE personnel operating on- or off-road diesel powered vehicles or equipment must comply with the limited idle time regulation. Drivers and operators shall be trained in this policy and shall sign acknowledgment form ([IIPP6](#)) stating they have received the training and understand the policy. A copy of this policy is to be made available to drivers and operators for their review.

CAL FIRE vehicles and equipment falling under the CCR regulation includes but is not limited to dozers, graders, backhoes, loaders, transports, fire apparatus and dozer tenders.

3. CAL FIRE LIMITED IDLE TIME POLICY

All CAL FIRE employees operating on- or off-road diesel vehicles or equipment during routine non-emergency use shall not allow diesel vehicle or equipment engines to idle longer than 5 minutes.

4. EXCEPTIONS

CAL FIRE diesel vehicles and equipment may be allowed to idle when:

- A. In use for or in direct support of an emergency.
- B. Stopped in a line of traffic at a railroad crossing, at a construction zone, highway congestion, etc.
- C. In use during a training exercise.
- D. Verifying safe operating conditions.
- E. Necessary for testing, maintenance, exhaust system regeneration, repair, diagnostic purposes, etc.
- F. Idling is necessary to cool down a turbo-charged heavy-duty vehicle in accordance with manufacturer's recommendation.
- G. Necessary to build pressure on vehicles with air brakes.
- H. Idling is necessary to operate defrosters, heaters, air conditioners or other equipment to prevent a safety or health emergency, but not solely for the comfort of the driver or passengers.

5. VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT SIGN

A 5-Minute Idle Time sign is to be displayed within sight of the driver or operator on all affected vehicles and equipment.

The signs will be supplied by Davis Equipment Facility (DEF). DEF will install the signs on new affected vehicles and equipment prior to release to the field. Local unit Forestry Equipment Managers (FEMs) will be responsible for installing signs on affected vehicles and equipment already in the field.



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