

Improvements for Heavy-Duty Engine and Vehicle Test Procedures, and other Technical Amendments: Final Rule

This final action amends the regulations that implement EPA's air pollutant emission standards for engines, vehicles and equipment. The amendments include corrections, clarifications, and flexibilities that do not raise significant policy issues.

The majority of the amendments in this final action modify test procedures for heavy-duty highway engines and vehicles to improve accuracy, and in some cases, reduce test burden. They mainly apply to measurement of greenhouse gas pollutants (primarily CO₂), though some apply to criteria pollutants (such as NO_x) as well.

Additional heavy-duty highway amendments update EPA regulations to enhance implementation of existing emission standards. For example, some changes reduce the likelihood that manufacturers would need to duplicate certification efforts to comply with EPA, Canadian, and Californian standards. Some amendments make it easier for manufacturers to more fully account for the emission benefits of advanced emission control technology, which could provide them the opportunity to generate additional emission credits.

This rule includes other amendments that are generally administrative or technical in nature and include amendments for nonroad engines and vehicles, stationary engines, and portable fuel containers. This action also eliminates hundreds of pages of obsolete regulations. This action is limited in scope and does not have significant economic or environmental impacts.

EPA published a proposed rule on May 12, 2020 (85 FR 28153). This final rule follows from that proposal, with several adjustments that include EPA's consideration of comments received.

Which Products would be Affected?

The amendments affect the emission certification of the following products:

- Light-duty vehicles
- Heavy-duty vehicles and engines
- Motorcycles (highway and nonroad)
- Marine engines
- Locomotives
- Other nonroad engines and equipment
- Stationary engines
- Portable fuel containers

Who would be Affected by these Changes?

The changes would primarily affect manufacturers seeking certification of any of the affected products, including importers and secondary manufacturers. The changes to the emission test procedures would also affect anyone performing certification testing, such as independent test laboratories. Other persons such as distributors and end-users may be indirectly affected by the amendments.

For More Information

You can access the rule and related documents on EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) website at:

www.epa.gov/vehicle-and-fuel-emissions-testing/engine-testing-regulations.