

Appendix F-B-6
Purpose and Rationale for
Proposed Amendments to the Light- and Medium-Duty
Test Procedures

**CALIFORNIA 2015 AND SUBSEQUENT MODEL
CRITERIA POLLUTANT EXHAUST EMISSION
STANDARDS AND TEST PROCEDURES AND 2017
AND SUBSEQUENT MODEL GREENHOUSE GAS
EXHAUST EMISSION STANDARDS AND TEST
PROCEDURES FOR PASSENGER CARS, LIGHT-DUTY
TRUCKS, AND MEDIUM-DUTY VEHICLES**

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Part I. Subpart A. Section 1

Subsection A.1.1.7.

Purpose

The purpose of this amendment is to remove unnecessary text.

Rationale

This amended language in this subsection references “the medium-duty engine standards in title 13, CCR, section 1956.8 (c) or (h).” It is not necessary to include “(c) or (h),” since the optional medium-duty engine emission standards in section 1956.8 are clearly indicated.

Part I. Subpart E. Section 2

Subsection E.2.3.

Purpose

Subsection E.2.3 contains the LEV III Phase-In Requirements for Medium-Duty Vehicles, Other than Medium-Duty Passenger Vehicles. Subsection E.2.3.1 specifies separate phase-in requirements for LEV III vehicles that certify to the chassis exhaust emission standards in section E.1.1 and for LEV III vehicles that optionally certify to the heavy-duty engine standards in section 1956.8. The current requirement for LEV III vehicles that optionally certify to the heavy-duty engine standards in section 1956.8 is that 100 percent of the vehicles certify to the ultra-low-emission vehicle (ULEV) standards in subsection 1956.8 (c) or (h), as applicable, for the 2015 and subsequent model years.

The proposed amendments to section 1956.8 include new exhaust emission standards that will apply to LEV III medium-duty vehicles that optionally certify to the heavy-duty engine standards in section 1956.8 in the 2024 and subsequent model years. The proposed amendments to subsection E.2.3.1 incorporate the proposed 2024 and subsequent model year standards. (See Chapter III, section A.12 for further details on the definition of medium-duty vehicles.)

Rationale

Subsection E.2.3.1 currently only allows medium-duty vehicles that optionally certify to the heavy-duty engine standards in section 1956.8 to use engines that meet the ULEV emission standards in subsections 1956.8 (c) and (h). The proposed amendment is necessary to require such medium-duty vehicles to use engines that meet the proposed more stringent standards in the 2024 and subsequent model years.

The current requirements related to medium-duty vehicles are described in Chapter I, Section B.12; the need for medium-duty engine clarifications and amendments is described in Chapter II, Section C.12; and the description of proposed medium-duty engine clarifications and amendments is included in Chapter III, Section A.12.

Subsections E.2.3.1.1 and E.2.3.1.2.

Purpose

The purpose of the amendments to subsections E.2.3.1.1 and E.2.3.1.2 is to implement the amendments described for subsection E.2.3.

Rationale

These amendments are necessary to ensure that manufacturers that certify medium-duty vehicles to the optional engine emission standards in section 1956.8 continue to certify to the applicable standards in the 2024 and subsequent model years.

Subsection E.2.3.3.2, including subsections E.2.3.3.2.1, E.2.3.3.2.2, E.2.3.3.2.3, and E.2.3.3.2.4.

Purpose

The purpose of the amendments to these subsections is to remove language that is no longer needed.

Rationale

These subsections provide alternative LEV III phase-in schedules for manufacturers with a limited number of test groups that certify to the chassis standards in subsection E.1.1. These subsections also currently show the LEV III phase-in schedules for

medium-duty vehicles that certify to the optional engine emission standards in section 1956.8. Since the proposed optional engine emission standards in section 1956.8 are identical to those contained in subsection E.2.3.1.2, it is not necessary to also show them here. The phase-in schedules for medium-duty vehicles that certify to the optional engine emission standards in section 1956.8 have, therefore, been deleted from subsections E.2.3.3.2.1, E.2.3.3.2.2, E.2.3.3.2.3, and E.2.3.3.2.4.

Subsection E.2.3.4.

Purpose

The purpose of the amendments to this subsection is to clarify that compliance with the phase-in schedules for medium-duty vehicles that certify to the LEV III chassis standards in subsection E.1.1 is determined based only on a manufacturer's production of medium-duty vehicles that certify to the LEV III chassis standards in subsection E.1.1. And compliance with the phase-in schedule for medium-duty vehicles that use engines certifying to the optional engine standards in section 1956.8 is determined based only on a manufacturer's production of vehicles that use engines certifying to the optional medium-duty engine standards in section 1956.8.

Rationale

The current regulatory text is unclear on how the phase-in schedule for medium-duty vehicles that certify to the optional engine standards in section 1956.8 is determined.

Subsection E.2.4.3.

Purpose

The purpose of this amendment is to remove unnecessary text.

Rationale

This amended language in this subsection references "the optional medium-duty engine emission standards in subsections 1956.8(c) or (h)." It is not necessary to include "(c) or (h)," since the optional medium-duty engine emission standards in section 1956.8 are clearly indicated.

Part II. Subpart C.

Subsection C.2.

Purpose

Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) section 1066.125, which is incorporated by this subsection, has been updated to the most current version. This change is needed to allow harmonization with federal regulations.

Rationale

This amendment allows manufacturers to certify vehicles using the same vehicle testing procedures that are used to certify vehicles to U.S. EPA's emission standards.