



Terry Tamminen
Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
Chairman
1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

August 9, 2004

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to remind you that certain Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) standards and related requirements for consumer product categories will become effective on December 31, 2004, and January 1, 2005. The specific regulatory requirements are contained in the California Consumer Products Regulation, codified in sections 94507–94517 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations. The standards for these consumer products specify the maximum content of volatile organic compounds (VOC) in the products, by weight percent. For your convenience the affected consumer products categories and associated standards are listed in the enclosed Table I.

When the Midterm Measures I and II amendments to the Consumer Products Regulation were adopted, the Board directed the Executive Officer to monitor the progress of manufacturers in meeting the VOC limits and to conduct technical assessments prior to the effective dates for each of the VOC limits. The goal of this letter is to learn about the progress your company is making to comply with the upcoming VOC standards. If your company anticipates it will successfully reformulate prior to the limits becoming effective you do not need to contact us. However, if your company is experiencing difficulty with reformulating by the applicable effective date, we are asking you to contact us in writing. Your written comments should provide sufficient detail for us to determine the nature and extent of the problem, as well as the level of effort undertaken by your company to comply.

To facilitate the transition period when a regulatory “effective date” takes effect, the Consumer Products Regulation contains a “sell-through” provision. This provision allows the sale or supply of consumer products for three years if they were manufactured prior to the effective date of the applicable standard. However, to qualify for this sell through, the products must be marked with the date of manufacture or an appropriate code-date that has been filed with ARB. This date or code-date must be displayed on containers beginning at least 12 months prior to the effective date of the standard.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

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The Consumer Products Regulation, in its entirety, is available on the internet at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/consprod/regs/cpreg.pdf>. Alternatively, you may obtain paper copies of the regulations by contacting Ms. Marline Hicks of the Air Quality Measures Branch at (916) 327-1517 or mhicks@arb.ca.gov. In the regulation, you will find definitions of the product categories and subcategories, the Table of Standards, the "sell-through" provision, and other regulatory requirements.

By California law, your product must meet the applicable VOC limit in order to be sold in this State. I encourage you to refer to the regulation to determine whether any of the standards apply, now or in the future, to consumer products for which you are responsible. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions about the standards or other aspects of the regulation, please contact Mr. Nicholas Berger of my staff at (916) 327-1516 or nberger@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/S/

Janette Brooks, Chief
Air Quality Measures Branch
Stationary Source Division

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Bruce Moore
Coatings & Consumer Products Group
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (MD-13)
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711

Ms. Marline Hicks
Implementation Section
Air Quality Measures Branch

Mr. Nicholas Berger
Technical Evaluation Section
Air Quality Measures Branch

Table 1: Consumer Product Standards Effective 12/31/04 or 1/1/05

Product Category	VOC Standard	12/31/2004 Effective Date
Air Fresheners		
double phase aerosols	25%	
Engine Degreasers (all forms)		
aerosols	35%	
non-aerosols	5%	
Furniture Maintenance Products		
aerosols	17%	
General Purpose Cleaners		
non-aerosols	4%	
General Purpose Degreasers		
non-aerosols	4%	(please see footnote 1)
Glass Cleaners		
non-aerosols	4%	
Insecticides		
aerosol flying bug	25%	(please see footnote 2)
non-aerosol lawn and garden	3%	(please see footnote 2)
Nail Polish Removers	0%	

Product Category	VOC Standard	1/1/2005 Effective Date
Automotive Rubbing or Polishing Compounds	17%	
Automotive Wax/Polish/Sealant/Glaze		
all other forms (except Instant Detailers)	15%	
hard paste waxes	45%	
Hair Shine	55%	
Heavy-duty Hand Cleaners or Soap	8%	
Metal Polish/Cleanser	30%	
Paint Remover or Stripper	50%	
Rubber and Vinyl Protectant		
aerosols	10%	
Silicone-based Multi-purpose Lubricant (excluding solid or semisolid products)	60%	

footnotes:

- 1) The Board recently approved the phase out of three chlorinated toxic air contaminants (methylene chloride, perchloroethylene, & trichloroethylene) from seven affected product categories, including "General Purpose Degreasers." Please be advised that there will be another public review of the Board's action, but the use of these toxic chlorinated solvents could be phased out as early as 12/31/05.
- 2) Effective date is 12/31/03. However, for those consumer products that are registered under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, (FIFRA), the effective date of the VOC standards is one year after the date specified in the Table of Standards. The "sell-through" provision for FIFRA registered products shall also begin one year after the date specified in Table of Standards.