



Air Resources Board



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

October 3, 2008

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, 2008 and December 31, 2009. 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 previous 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/regs.htm>. Alternatively, you may obtain paper copies of the regulations by contacting Ms. Leslie Reed of the Air Quality Measures Branch at (916) 322-7072 or lreed@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. Tim Dunn of my staff at (916) 324-9552 or tdunn@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Signed by

Janette M. Brooks, Chief
Air Quality Measures Branch
Stationary Source Division

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Bruce Moore
U.S. EPA, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards
Sector Policies and Programs Division
Natural Resources and Commerce Group (E143-03)
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711

Ms. Leslie Reed
Air Quality Measures Branch

Mr. Tim Dunn
Technical Evaluation Section
Air Quality Measures Branch

Table 1
Consumer Products Categories
Associated VOC Standards Becoming Effective on
December 31, 2008 and December 31, 2009

	Effective Date (1)	VOC Standard (2)
Consumer Product Category		
Adhesives: Construction, Panel, and Floor Covering: non-aerosol	12/31/2008	7
Anti-static Product: aerosol	12/31/2008	80
Automotive Windshield Washer Fluids: Type "A" areas, all forms	12/31/2008	25
Bathroom and Tile Cleaners: non-aerosols	12/31/2008	1
Brake Cleaners: all forms	12/31/2008	20
Carburetor or Fuel-injection Air Intake Cleaners: all forms	12/31/2008	20
Disinfectant: aerosol	12/31/2008	70
Disinfectant: non-aerosol	12/31/2008	1
Furniture Maintenance Products: non-aerosols	12/31/2008	3
General Purpose Cleaners: aerosols	12/31/2008	8
General Purpose Degreasers: aerosols	12/31/2008	20
Laundry Starch/Sizing/Fabric Finish Product: all forms	12/31/2008	4.5
Oven Cleaners: non-aerosol (including pump sprays and liquids)	12/31/2008	1
Sanitizer: aerosol	12/31/2008	70
Sanitizer: non-aerosol	12/31/2008	1
Shaving Gel: aerosol	12/31/2009	4
(1) See section 94509(d) for the effective date of the VOC standards for products registered under FIFRA, and section 94509(c) and (d) for the sell-through" allowed for products manufactured prior to the effective date of standards.		
(2) See section 94510(c) for an exemption that applies to fragrances in consumer products, and section 94510(d) for an exemption that applies to LVP-VOCs.		