



California
Air Resources Board
Compliance Division

Advisory

Reid Vapor Pressure
of Gasoline Specifications

Number 69

May 31, 1991

Reid Vapor Pressure of Gasoline

The purpose of this advisory is to inform all producers, importers, blenders, distributors, haulers, and retailers of gasoline in California of the recent changes in the Reid Vapor Pressure regulations and testing procedure. Section 2251 of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) was amended, and sections 2251.5 and 2262 were adopted. The following are the notable highlights of the new regulations and testing procedure. For additional information, please contact the persons listed below.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY: Section 2251 has been amended to provide an alternative vapor pressure testing procedure. The alternative procedure is set forth in the new Section 2262 and is titled Test Method for the Determination of the Reid Vapor Pressure Equivalent Using an Automated Vapor Pressure Test Instrument. The automated instruments approved for such use are the Grabner Instruments, models: CCA-VP (the laboratory Grabner) and CCA-VPS (the portable Grabner) and the Stanhope-Seta Limited, model: Setavap. Other automated instruments may receive approval later. Thus, the California Air Resources Board may use either Section 2262 or the American Society of Testing and Materials test method D323-58 to determine the vapor pressure of gasoline

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1992: Section 2251.5 will supersede Section 2251. The new Section 2251.5 specifies that California gasoline shall not exceed 7.8 psi. during the summer months. Producers and importers of gasoline are required to comply with the summertime RVP limit one month before other parties in the gasoline distribution and marketing system. Some dates and boundary designations are different than those specified in Section 2251. Section 2251.1 will continue to provide an RVP exemption for ethanol/gasoline blends that have at least 10% ethanol and that the base gasoline did not exceed an RVP of 7.8 psi. Section 2251.5 also includes provisions for variances from the regulation.

If you have any questions about the regulation or need additional information, please telephone Mr. Royce Jackson at (916) 322-6033.

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