

FACT SHEET

Fleet Rule for Transit Agencies Urban Bus Requirements

title 13, California Code of Regulations, sections 1956.1, 2020, 2023, 2023.1 & 2023.4

In February 2000, the Air Resources Board adopted the Fleet Rule for Transit Agencies and more stringent exhaust emission standards for new Urban Bus (UB) engines and vehicles. The regulation also promotes advanced technologies by providing for zero-emission bus (ZEB) demonstration projects and requiring ZEB acquisitions applicable to larger transit agencies.

What is an Urban Bus? An UB is a passenger carrying vehicle owned or operated by a public transit agency, powered by a heavy heavy-duty engine, or of a type normally powered by a heavy heavy-duty diesel engine, intended primarily for intra-city operation. A bus normally powered by a heavy heavy-duty diesel engine is usually 35 feet or longer, and/or greater than 33,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR).

Urban Bus Engine Standard. New UBs operated in California are required to have engines that meet the more stringent California UB engine exhaust emission standard through the 2006 model year, after which, starting with the 2007 model year, the standard aligns with the California heavy-duty engine exhaust emission standard.

Fuel Path. Transit operators are required to choose a fuel path: diesel or alternative fuel. Fuel path choice affects UB purchases and dictates emission reduction deadlines.

- **Alternative Fuel Path.** At least 85% of annual UB purchases shall be fueled by alternative fuel. Alternative fuel includes compressed natural gas (CNG), propane (LPG), ethanol, methanol, gasoline/electric hybrid, hydrogen, electricity, fuel cells, or advanced technologies that do not rely on diesel fuel.

Reporting Requirements. A transit agency must report every January 31st, starting in 2003 through 2016, the UBs owned, operated, or under contract to the transit agency as of January 1 of that year.

NOx Fleet Average. As of October 1, 2002, a transit agency shall not operate a UB fleet with a NOx fleet average exceeding 4.8 g/bhp-hr.

PM Reduction Requirement. A transit agency shall make percentage reductions (below) in the total diesel PM emissions of its diesel UB fleet relative to its January 1, 2002, total UB fleet diesel PM baseline:

Fuel Path	Reduction from 2002 Baseline as of January 1st					
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
Diesel	40%	60%	-	85%*	-	-
Alternative fuel	20%	40%	-	60%	-	85%*

*or meet 0.01 g/bhp-hr times the total number of diesel buses in the active fleet.

Ultra Low Sulfur Fuel. Since July 2002, transit agencies are required to use ultra low sulfur diesel which contains less than or equal to 15 parts per million sulfur content by weight .

Zero Emission Bus Purchases. Begins July, 2008, and affects fleets with greater than 200 UBs.

Public Transit Agencies' website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/bus/bus.htm>
DECS Verification: <http://arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/home/home.htm>