

Frequently Asked Questions Truck and Bus Regulation

Single-Engine Water-Well Drilling Rig Vehicles Updated: June 28, 2019

Q - What is a low use vehicle?

A - A low-use vehicle is one that operates less than 1,000 miles per calendar year within California's borders, not including emergency use.

Q - How do I take advantage of the low-use vehicle exemption?

A - Each January you can designate which trucks will use the low-use exemption for the year. You must report vehicle information and odometer readings by January 31 of the compliance year or within 30 days of purchasing a vehicle. You must also report end of year odometer readings and when the vehicle is sold to demonstrate the vehicle met the mileage limits. The vehicle owner must also report the miles the vehicle was used to support emergency events for any vehicle that exceed the annual limits.

Q - How are emergency events defined?

A - Emergency events include wild fires, floods, and other natural disasters where the vehicle was dispatched by a local, state, or federal agency. During a drought state of emergency, it also includes drilling to replace existing water wells that have gone dry or to drill new wells to increase water supply availability.

Q - Is the emergency drought situation considered an emergency event and is it still in effect?

A - Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. terminated the drought state of emergency on April 7, 2017 for all counties except Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Tuolumne, following unprecedented water conservation and because key reservoirs are at over 100 percent of average. The Executive Order B-40-17, stating such, is located at https://www.gov.ca.gov/docs/4.7.17_Exec_Order_B-40-17.pdf. As a result of this Executive Order, water-well drilling rigs are no longer allowed to claim emergency use miles under the low-use exemption of the Truck and Bus regulation, unless they are operating in the counties listed above.

Q - Where can I get more information about the Truck and Bus regulation?

A - Fact sheets, compliance tools, and regulatory documents about the Truck and Bus regulation are available at www.arb.ca.gov/dieseltruck. If you have questions or wish to obtain this document in an alternative format or language, please call the Air Resources Board's diesel hotline at (866) 6DIESEL (634-3735). TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

While this document is intended to assist fleets with their compliance efforts, it does not alter or modify the terms of any Air Resources Board regulation, nor does it serve as legal advice. It is the sole responsibility of fleets to ensure compliance with the Truck and Bus regulation.