State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Notice of Public Availability of Modified Text

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AN AMENDMENT TO THE LIMIT ON THE PROPENE CONTENT OF LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS INTENDED FOR USE IN MOTOR VEHICLES

Public Hearing Date: March 27, 1997
Public Availability Date: September 15, 1997
Deadline for Public Comment: September 30, 1997

At a March 27, 1997 public hearing, the Air Resources Board (ARB or the Board) considered adoption of an amendment postponing for two years the final limit on the propene content of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) intended for use in motor vehicles. This limit is contained in California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 13, section 2292.6. The proposed amendment was described in detail in the Staff Report (Initial Statement of Reasons for Proposed Rulemaking) released in January 1997.

At the hearing, the Board adopted the amendment as proposed. However, in preparing the amendment for submittal to the Office of Administrative Law, ARB staff has determined that one minor but essential element was inadvertently omitted from the proposed amendments. The purpose of this notice is to advise interested parties of the Executive Officer's intent to incorporate this additional element into the amendments after considering any comments submitted during the supplemental 15-day comment period announced by this notice.

The Board adopted section 2292.6, title 13, CCR, in 1992, to be applicable starting January 1, 1993. In conjunction with section 2291, the regulation controls the properties of LPG that is sold commercially for use in motor vehicles in California. The Board included a *maximum* limit on the propene content of vehicular LPG. In the initial adoption, the propene limit was ten percent by volume, and the limit was to have declined to five percent on January 1, 1995. The original regulation also included a *minimum* propane content requirement of 80 volume percent; this standard was to have risen to 85 volume percent at the same time that the maximum permissible propene content was to decline to five percent. The propene and propane requirements were linked because of the difficulty of producing LPG with an 85 percent propane content when the fuel contains close to ten percent propene.

In 1994, the Board postponed the effective date of the five percent limit maximum propene content for two years to January 1, 1997; in the interim, the propene limit continued to be ten percent. The 1994 amendment also included a two-year postponement of the 85 percent minimum propane content limit.

The amendment adopted at the March 27, 1997 hearing resulted from a petition filed by the Western Propane Gas Association (WPGA) seeking a further delay of the five percent propene limit, to January 1, 1999. Staff ultimately proposed another two-year delay of the more stringent propene limit. However, staff inadvertently failed to include a coincident delay of the 85 percent minimum propane content standard in its proposal. No commenters brought this omission to the Board's attention, and the Board adopted the amendment as proposed.

Attached is a copy of the text of the proposed amendment, with an additional proposed modification postponing the 85 percent propane standard for two years, until January 1, 1999. After considering any comments received as a result of this notice, may incorporate the modification into the final adoption of the amendments.

In the Resolution adopting the proposed amendment, the Board expressed its intent that the Board that it will not adopt a further postponement of the five percent propene content standard for vehicular LPG, and that by the end of 1998 the Board either will adopt an appropriate consensus standard for the vehicular LPG propene content of vehicular LPG if one is developed, or will have the five percent propene content standard become applicable. This notice does not represent any change to that position.

Written comments on the proposed modification must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board, Air Resources Board, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, California 95812, no later than the deadline for public comment identified above, for consideration by the Executive Officer prior to final action. Only comments relating to the modifications described in this notice will be considered by the Executive Officer.

Sincerely,

Peter D. Venturini, Chief
Stationary Source Division

Attachment

PROPOSED REGULATION ORDER

Note: The originally proposed amendment is shown in ~~strike-out~~ to indicate deletions and underline to show additions. Modifications to the original proposal are shown in ***~~bold italicized strikeout~~*** to show deletions and double underline to show additions.

Amend section 2292.6, Title 13, California code of Regulations, to read as follows:

Section 2292.6 **Specifications for Liquefied Petroleum Gas**

The following standards apply to liquefied petroleum gas (the identified methods are incorporated herein by reference):

Specifications for Liquefied Petroleum Gas

Specification	Value	Test Method
Propane	85.0 vol. % (min.) a/	ASTM D 2163-87
Vapor Press. at 100° F	208 psig (max.)	ASTM D 1267-89 ASTM D 2598-88 b/
Volatility residue: evaporated temp., 95% or butane and heavier	 -37° F (max.) 2.5 vol. % (max.)	 ASTM D 1837-86 ASTM D 2163-87
Propene	5.0 vol. % (max.) c/	ASTM D 2163-87
Residual matter: residue on evap. of 100 ml oil stain observed.	 0.05 ml (max.) pass d/	 ASTM D 2158-89 ASTM D 2158-89
Corrosion, copper strip	No. 1 (max.)	ASTM D 1838-89
Sulfur	120 ppmw (max.)	ASTM D 2784-89
Moisture content	pass	ASTM D 2713-86
Odorant	e/	

a/ Propane shall be required to be a minimum of 80.0 volume percent starting on January 1, 1993. Starting on January 1, ~~*1997*~~ 1999, the minimum propane content shall be 85.0 volume percent.

b/ In case of dispute about the vapor pressure of a product, the value actually determined by Test Method ASTM D 1267-89 shall prevail over the value calculated by Practice ASTM D 2598-88.

c/ The propene shall be limited to 10.0 volume percent starting January 1, 1993. Starting January 1, ~~1997~~ 1999, the propene limit shall be 5.0 volume percent.

d/ An acceptable product shall not yield a persistent oil ring when 0.3 ml of solvent residue mixture is added to a filter paper, in 0.1 ml increments and examined in daylight after 2 min. as described in Test Method ASTM 2158-89.

e/ The liquefied petroleum gas upon vaporization at ambient conditions must have a distinctive odor potent enough for its presence to be detected down to a concentration in air of not over 1/5 (one-fifth) of the lower limit of flammability.