

State of California
California Environmental Protection Agency
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

**California Procedures for Evaluating
Alternative Specifications for Phase 3 Reformulated Gasoline
Using the California Predictive Model**

Adopted: June 16, 2000
Amended:

Note: The preexisting Procedures document is shown in normal type. The proposed amendments are shown in underline to indicate additions and ~~strikeout~~ to indicate deletions. Only the section being amended is shown. A commentary explaining the rationale for the amendment is shown in bracketed italics; it is not part of the Procedures document.

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III. GENERAL EQUATIONS FOR CALCULATING PERCENT CHANGES IN EMISSIONS

A. Summary and Explanation

- ◆ The applicant will first select which of two compliance options he/she wishes to be subject to. The first compliance option, referred to as the exhaust and evap model option, uses the exhaust HC emissions models, the evaporative HC emissions changes models, and the CO adjustment factor in determining the HC emissions equivalency of the candidate fuel specifications. The second option, referred to as the exhaust-only option, uses only the exhaust HC emissions model in the determination of the HC emissions equivalency of the candidate fuel specifications. (See III.B)

The exhaust and evap model option may only be used for final blends of California gasoline or CARBOB where some part of the final blend is physically transferred from its production or import facility during the Reid vapor pressure control period for the production or import facility set forth in section 2262.4, title 13, California Code of Regulations, or within 15 days before the start of such period.

[Commentary: Once the Reid vapor pressure (RVP) season is over in the fall, gasoline batches subject to the Predictive Model option do not have to meet the ARB's RVP standard. Therefore it is inappropriate for such a batch of gasoline to be supplied as a Predictive Model alternative formulation that gives credit for a reduced RVP under the evap element of the Predictive Model.]

- ◆ The applicant will select a candidate specification for each property, and will identify whether the specification represents a flat limit or an averaging limit. The Phase 3 RFG reference specification is identified for each property using the flat/average limit compliance option selected for the corresponding candidate specification. (See III.B.)

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B. Selection by Applicant of Candidate and Reference Specifications

The applicant shall first select which of two compliance options he/she wishes to be subject to. The first compliance option uses the exhaust HC emissions models, the evaporative HC emissions models, and the CO adjustment factor in determining the HC emissions equivalency of the candidate fuel specifications. The second option uses only the exhaust HC emissions model in the determination of the HC emissions equivalency of the candidate fuel specifications.

If the applicant selects the first compliance option, the applicable Phase 3 RVP limits are a flat limit of 6.90 and a cap limit of 7.20. That is, if the applicant elects to use the evaporative HC emissions predictive model, all evaporative HC emissions changes predicted by the model for the candidate fuel will be based on the use of 6.90 psi as the RVP of the Phase 3 reference fuel. If the applicant selects the second compliance option, the applicable Phase 3 RVP limit is a flat (and cap) limit of 7.00.

Next, the applicant shall, for each fuel property, select a candidate specification and indicate whether this specification represents a flat limit or an averaging limit. The appropriate corresponding Phase 3 RFG reference specifications (flat or average) are then identified. Table 7 provides an optional worksheet to assist the applicant in selecting the candidate and reference specifications. These steps are summarized below.

1. Identify the value of the candidate specification for each fuel property and insert the values into Table 7. The candidate specifications may have any value for RVP, sulfur, benzene, aromatic hydrocarbons, olefins, T50, and T90 as long as each specification is less than or equal to the cap limits shown in Table 1. Note that, if the applicant is not using the compliance option which provides for the use of the evaporative HC emissions models, no value is entered for RVP into the "Candidate Fuel Specifications" column of Table 7 (In this case the RVP is 7.00). The candidate specification may have any value for oxygen as long as the specification is within the range of the cap limits shown in Table 1.
2. The oxygen contents of the candidate fuel specifications can be found from Table 6. Note that, because oxygen is specified in the form of a range, there are usually two candidate fuel specifications for oxygen, the upper end of the range (maximum) and the lower end of the range (minimum). There are two exceptions to this, in which cases it is assumed that the candidate fuel specifications have a single oxygen

content. If the oxygen range of the candidate fuel specifications is within the range of 1.8 to 2.2 percent (inclusive), the oxygen content of the candidate fuel specifications is assumed to be 2.0 percent. If the oxygen range of the candidate fuel specifications is within the range of 2.5 to 2.9 percent, the oxygen content of the candidate fuel specifications is assumed to be 2.7 percent.

3. The hot soak benzene emissions model contains an MTBE content term. Thus, for hot soak benzene emissions predictions, it is necessary to specify the oxygen content as MTBE for the candidate and reference fuel. Table 6 is used as in 2. above, using the oxygen content as MTBE of the candidate fuel, to specify the oxygen content as MTBE for the candidate and reference fuel specifications. That is, the relevant oxygen content value is the oxygen content as MTBE, not the total oxygen content as in the case of the exhaust emissions predictions. The result is that, if the candidate fuel does not contain MTBE, the oxygen content as MTBE for the reference fuel is 2.0 percent, and the oxygen content as MTBE for the candidate fuel is zero percent. The reason it is assumed that the reference fuel contains MTBE is that MTBE was the oxygenate used while the Phase 2 regulations were in effect, and this assumption helps ensure that potency-weighted toxics emissions from Phase 3 gasoline will not be greater than those from Phase 2 gasoline.

[Commentary: This paragraph makes it clear that, for the hot soak evaporative benzene emissions model, it is assumed that the reference fuel contains MTBE. This is a non-substantive change.]

4. For each property other than oxygen and RVP, indicate whether the candidate specification will represent a flat limit or an averaging limit.
5. For each candidate specification identified in 1., identify the appropriate corresponding Phase 3 RFG reference specifications (flat or average). Circle the appropriate flat or average limit for the reference fuel in Table 7. The circled values are the reference specifications which will be used in the predictive model.

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