

In-Use Locomotive Regulation

ENFORCEMENT NOTICE

October 22, 2024

CARB's In-Use Locomotive Regulation Background

In 2023, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted the In-Use Locomotive Regulation (title 13 California Code of Regulations (CCR) §§ 2478–2478.17). The Regulation will help meet California's public health, air quality, and climate goals by reducing criteria pollutants, toxic air contaminants, and greenhouse gases emitted by locomotives operating in the state. Exposure to toxic and harmful diesel emissions from sources including locomotives is known to lead to cancer and increases in asthma, cardiopulmonary illness, hospitalizations, and premature mortality. Communities near rail operations bear a disproportionate health burden due to their proximity to harmful emissions.

On November 7, 2023, CARB requested authorization for the regulation from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). As of October 2024, that request is pending with U.S. EPA.

Update Regarding Enforcement of CARB's Locomotive Regulation

Per section 2478.11 of the In-Use Locomotive Regulation, regulated entities are required to report specific information to CARB on July 1, 2026. Required information includes data concerning locomotive activity for the previous calendar year beginning January 1, 2025, onward.

There is uncertainty over the timing of the U.S. EPA authorization decision. In addition, entities not previously regulated by CARB may face the need to implement new systems to capture data in 2025 in order to comply with the first report required by section 2478.11 (due July 1, 2026). In light of the specific circumstances for these reporting provisions, CARB will not require regulated entities to collect data otherwise required under section 2478.11 for the first six months of 2025, although regulated entities are encouraged to voluntarily report.

Thus, for purposes of section 2478.11 only, the required reporting period for the 2025 Calendar Year shall run from July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. Entities required to report under section 2478.11 shall still file their required reports by July 1, 2026, for the 2025 Calendar Year.

Regulated entities are still required, under section 2478.11(a)(1), to maintain all records related to these reporting requirements (beginning July 1, 2025) for three years after the reporting date and are required, under section 2478.11(a)(2) to make records available to CARB upon request.

Further Information

CARB will issue a listserv notice when U.S. EPA publishes notice in the Federal Register regarding the authorization for the In-Use Locomotive Regulation.

More information about the In-Use Locomotive Regulation can be found on CARB's [website](#), the associated [Fact Sheet](#), and on CARB's [Rulemaking page](#). For further information, please contact locomotives@arb.ca.gov.