San Joaquin Valley
Unified Air Pollution Control District

Rule 4702 Applicability and Enforceability for IC Engines Powering Irrigation Pumps Used in Agricultural Operations

Approved By: [Signature]  
Date: 8/11/14  
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I. Purpose

This policy is intended to clarify the requirement to obtain a Permit to Operate (PTO) or Permit Exempt Equipment Registration (PEER) for IC engines powering irrigation pumps used in agricultural operations as required by Rule 4702 – Internal Combustion Engines.

II. Background

Rule 4702 Internal Combustion Engines applies to all internal combustion engines (IC engines) rated at 25 hp or greater. Section 5.1 requires a one-time notification for IC engines rated from 25 to 50 hp, and Section 5.2 specifies requirements for IC engines rated greater than 50 hp.

For agricultural operations, IC engines that are subject to the requirements in Rule 4702 section 5.2 must either have:
- A PTO issued to the operator if the facility has actual emissions equal to or greater than ½ of the major source thresholds, OR
- A PEER issued to the operator if the facility has actual emissions less than ½ of the major source thresholds. See Rule 4702 section 5.11.

A portable equipment registration from either CARB or the District does not authorize the use of IC engines powering irrigation pumps in agricultural operations. Any IC engine used to power an irrigation pump is supporting the operation of the agricultural stationary source (whether or not the agricultural operation is subject to permit). As registered portable equipment cannot be used to support the operation of a stationary source, IC engines used to power
irrigation pumps in agricultural operations are not eligible for registration as portable equipment with CARB or the District.

III. Policy:

IC engines powering irrigation pumps at agricultural operations are subject to the requirements of Rule 4702, including stationary IC engines, portable IC engines, and rental IC engines. The requirements of Rule 4702 must be made enforceable by:

1) Authority to Construct (ATC)/Permit to Operate (PTO) pursuant to Rule 2010 – Permits Required for agricultural operations subject to District permit, i.e. stationary source actual emissions equal to or greater than ½ of the major source thresholds, or

2) Permit Exempt Equipment Registration (PEER) pursuant to Rule 2250 Permit Exempt Equipment Registration for agricultural operations that are exempt from District permit, i.e. stationary source actual emissions less than ½ of the major source thresholds. Please note the emissions from all IC engines powering irrigation pumps, including IC engines owned or rented by the facility, and other emission units, are included to assess the stationary source actual emissions.

Agricultural Operations Subject to District Permit (ATC/PTO):
For agricultural operations subject to District permit, any IC engine proposed to be installed or used, including replacement IC engines and rented IC engines, the owner/operator of the agricultural operation must receive an ATC prior to installation of the IC engine. Such an ATC would be issued to the owner/operator of the agricultural operation.

Pursuant to Rule 2020 section 7.1, an ATC is not required to replace an IC engine with an identical routine replacement IC engine where the replacement IC engine is identical to original unit in all respects except the serial number.

Additionally, pursuant to Rule 2201 Section 8.0 if an IC engine is replaced (permanently) with another IC engine as a routine replacement, an ATC application must be submitted within 7 days of the replacement. In such case, the new IC can operate under an application shield until the ATC is issued. The application shield does not exempt the operator from complying with other applicable requirements.

Agricultural Operations Subject to PEER, Exempt From District Permit:
For agricultural operations exempt from District permit, any IC engine proposed to be installed or used, including replacement IC engines and rented IC engines,
the owner/operator of the agricultural operation must receive a PEER pursuant to the requirement of Rule 2250 – Permit Exempt Equipment registration.

For new or modified IC engines, the PEER application must be submitted by the operator prior to initial operation of the IC engine.

For IC engines installed to replace an existing IC engine operating with a PEER, the PEER application for the replacement unit must be submitted within 30 days after the initial operation of the new unit. IC engines used to temporarily replace an existing registered IC engine with a PEER, for no more than 90 days in a 12 month period, need not be registered as a PEER. See Rule 2250.

It is important to note, that the agricultural source operator must submit the PEER application in accordance with the timeframes above. The IC engine can be installed and operated prior to the issuance of the PEER.

Please note that facilities not subject to District permit must keep accurate records to demonstrate that their emissions, including emissions from any rental IC engines, are below ½ of the major source threshold in order to maintain their exemption from the requirement to obtain District permits.

IC Engines With Portable Equipment Registration:
Regardless if the IC engine/pump has a portable equipment registration, an agricultural operation using an IC engine powering an agricultural pump must receive a PTO or a PEER. If the IC engine/pump already has a PEER, the registration would continue to be valid for other uses.

A PTO or PEER cannot be issued to the rental company and must be in the name of the stationary source where it will be operating.