

REQUEST FOR EARLY EFFECTIVE DATE


Pursuant to Government Code section 11343.4, the Air Resources Board (ARB) requests that the adoption of section 2263(b), title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR), become effective March 1, 1996. Good cause for this request exists.

In November of 1991 ARB adopted the Phase 2 reformulated gasoline (RFG) regulations, which establish a set of specifications for eight properties of California gasoline, including limits on the maximum benzene, aromatic hydrocarbon, olefin and sulfur content. The Phase 2 RFG regulations are effective March 1, 1996. Compliance with the Phase 2 RFG specifications is to be determined by using the test methods specified in Table 1, section 2263(b), title 13, CCR.

Although the test methods designated as part of the Phase 2 RFG rulemaking were the best available at that time, the Board directed ARB staff to work with industry and other interested parties to review the test methods with a view to substituting better test methods if they could be identified or developed. During this review, ARB staff identified a number of updated test methods as well as improvements to the designated test methods for determining the benzene, aromatic hydrocarbon, olefin and sulfur content of gasoline. These new and improved test methods were adopted as the designated test methods in this rulemaking.

ARB and the regulated industry will be best served if these amendments take effect March 1, 1996 when the Phase 2 RFG specification take effect. An early effective date will preserve effectiveness of the regulations and insure use of the best available test methods for determining compliance with the Phase 2 RFG specifications.

Date: January 16, 1996



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