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Unofficial electronic version of the Distributed Generation Certification Regulation

Unofficial Electronic Version

This unofficial electronic version of the Distributed Generation Certification following this Disclaimer was produced by California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff for the reader's convenience. CARB staff has removed the underline-strikeout formatting which exists in the Final Regulation Order approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on August 8, 2007 and included the full regulatory text for the Regulation; however, the following version is not an official legal edition of title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR), sections 94200-94214. The effective date of this regulation is September 7, 2007. While reasonable steps have been taken to make this unofficial version accurate, the officially published CCR takes precedence if there are any discrepancies.

Official Legal Edition

The official legal edition of title 17, CCR, sections 94200-94214 is available at the OAL website: [California Code of Regulations \(CCR\) | OAL](#)

Online California Code of Regulations: <https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs>

→ "Title 17. Public Health"

→ "Division 3. Air Resources"

→ "Chapter 1. Air Resources Board"

→ "Subchapter 8. Compliance with Nonvehicular Emission Standards"

→ "Article 3. Distributed Generation Certification Program"

→ then choose the relevant subarticle(s) and section(s)

**FINAL REGULATION ORDER
DISTRIBUTED GENERATION CERTIFICATION REGULATION**

Amend sections 94201, 94202, 94203, 94204, 94207, 94208, 94209, 94210, 94211, and 94212, and Adoption of section 94201.1, article 3, subchapter 8, chapter 1, division 3 of title 17, California Code of Regulations, to read as follows:

Article 3. Distributed Generation Certification Program

§ 94200. Purpose.

These regulations implement the program mandated by Health and Safety Code section 41514.9 for certification of electrical generation technologies. After January 1, 2003, it will be unlawful to either:

- (a) manufacture any DG Unit for sale, lease, use, or operation in the State of California, or
- (b) sell or lease, or offer for sale or lease any DG Unit for use or operation in the State of California, unless the DG Unit is certified by the Air Resources Board pursuant to these regulations or is otherwise exempt from certification as hereinafter provided.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94201. Applicability.

Any DG Unit manufactured after January 1, 2003, for sale, lease, use, or operation in the State of California or any new DG Unit sold or leased, or offered for sale or lease, for use or operation in the State of California after January 1, 2003, shall be certified by the Air Resources Board unless the DG Unit:

- (a) does not emit an air contaminant when operated,
- (b) is portable,
- (c) is used only when electrical or natural gas service fails or for emergency pumping of water for fire protection or flood relief,
- (d) is not exempt from an air pollution control district or air quality management district's permitting requirements,
- (e) is part of a research operation that has been approved in writing by the Executive Officer prior to commencement of operations, or
- (f) is operated by the manufacturer at the manufacturing facility prior to sale or lease for the purpose of quality-assurance testing.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94201.1 Operation of DG Unit That Was Certified When Purchased or Leased.

Any DG Unit that was purchased or leased while the DG Unit was certified can continue to be operated by the owner or lessee after the certification has expired so long as the DG Unit meets the standard to which it was certified.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94202. Definitions.

- (a) For the purposes of these regulations, the following definitions apply:
- (1) **“Air contaminant”** has the same meaning as set forth in section 39013 of the Health and Safety Code.
 - (2) **“Air pollution control equipment”** means equipment that eliminates, reduces, or controls the issuance of air emissions.
 - (3) **“Applicant”** means a manufacturer or manufacturer's designated agent applying for certification of a DG Unit.
 - (4) **“ARB”** means The California Air Resources Board.
 - (5) **“Btu”** means British thermal unit.
 - (6) **“CO”** means carbon monoxide.
 - (7) **“Combined heat and power (CHP)”** means a system that recovers thermal energy and converts it into useful heat from electrical power generation equipment.
 - (8) **“Digester gas”** means gases produced from the decomposition of sewage.
 - (9) **“Distributed generation (DG)”** means electrical generation technologies that produce electricity near the place of use.
 - (10) **“DG Unit”** means a piece of distributed generation equipment.
 - (11) **“District”** has the same meaning as set forth in part 3, commencing with section 40000 of the California Health and Safety Code.
 - (12) **“Electrical generation technology”** means reciprocating engines, external combustion engines, combustion turbines, photovoltaics, wind turbines, fuel cells, or any combination thereof.
 - (13) **“Energy efficiency”** means the amount of useful heat and electricity produced by a DG Unit divided by the higher heating value of the fuel used to produce the useful heat and electricity, expressed as a percentage.
 - (14) **“Executive Officer”** means the Executive Officer of the California Air Resources Board or his or her designee.
 - (15) **“Executive Order”** means an order issued by the Executive Officer of the Air Resources Board certifying compliance of a DG Unit with

the applicable requirements of this article.

- (16) **“Fossil fuels”** means fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas; so-called because they are the remains of ancient plant and animal life.
- (17) **“Higher heating value”** means the amount of heat released by the combustion of material at 25°C once the products of combustion have returned to a temperature of 25°C.
- (18) **“Landfill gas”** means gases produced from the decomposition and volatilization of materials in landfills
- (19) **“LPG”** means liquid petroleum gas.
- (20) **“MW-hr”** means megawatt-hour.
- (21) **“Natural gas”** means California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) quality natural gas.
- (22) **“NOx”** means oxides of nitrogen, expressed as NO₂.
- (23) **“Oil-field waste gas”** means gases produced from the drilling of oil wells and pumping of oil from wells that are not eligible for delivery to the utility pipeline system.
- (24) **“PM”** means particulate matter.
- (25) **“Portable”** has the same meaning as set forth in title 13 section 2452 of the California Code of Regulations.
- (26) **“Research operation”** means investigation, experimentation, or research to advance the knowledge of distributed generation technologies.
- (27) **“Useful heat”** means the heat that can be captured and used for other processes such as heating water or running an absorption chiller.
- (28) **“VOC”** means volatile organic compounds, expressed as hexane.
- (29) **“Zero Emission Technology”** means any technology that does not emit an air contaminant as defined in section 94202(1).

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94203. Requirements.

- (a) On or after January 1, 2003, any DG Unit subject to this regulation must be certified pursuant to section 94204 to one of the following sets of emission standards in Table 1.
 - (1) DG Unit not integrated with combined heat and power,
 - (2) DG Unit integrated with combined heat and power technology.

**Table 1.
January 1, 2003 Emission Standards (lb/MW-hr)**

<i>Pollutant</i>	<i>DG Unit not Integrated with Combined Heat and Power (a)(1)</i>	<i>DG Unit Integrated With Combined Heat and Power (a)(2)</i>
<i>Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x)</i>	0.5	0.7
<i>Carbon Monoxide (CO)</i>	6.0	6.0
<i>Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)</i>	1.0	1.0
<i>Particulate Matter (PM)</i>	An emission limit corresponding to natural gas with fuel sulfur content of no more than 1 grain/100 scf	An emission limit corresponding to natural gas with fuel sulfur content of no more than 1 grain/100 scf

- (3) DG Units that use combined heat and power may be certified to the emission standard in section (a)(2) above if the DG Units are sold with combined heat and power technology integrated into a standardized package by the Applicant and the DG Units achieve a minimum energy efficiency of 60 percent. The efficiency determination shall be based on 100 percent load.
 - (4) DG Units that are sold with a zero emission technology integrated into a standardized package by the Applicant may have the electrical power output of the zero emission technology added to the electrical power output of the DG Unit to meet the emission standards in (a)(1) and (a)(2) above.
- (b) On or after January 1, 2007, any DG Unit subject to this regulation fueled by a fossil fuel must be certified pursuant to section 94204 to the following set of emission standards in Table 2.

**Table 2.
2007 Fossil Fuel Emission Standards**

Pollutant	Emission Standard (lb/MW-hr)
NO_x	0.07
CO	0.10
VOCs	0.02

DG Units that produce combined heat and power may take a credit to meet the emission standard above. Credit shall be at the rate of one MW-hr for each 3.4 million Btu's of heat recovered. To take the credit, the following must apply:

- (1) DG Units are sold with combined heat and power technology integrated into a standardized package by the Applicant; and
- (2) DG Units achieve a minimum energy efficiency of 60 percent.

- (c) Any DG Unit subject to this regulation and fueled by digester gas, landfill gas, or oil-field waste gas must be certified pursuant to section 94204 to the emission standards in Table 3.

**Table 3.
Waste Gas Emission Standards**

Pollutant	Emission Standard (lb/MW-hr)	
	On or after January 1, 2008	On or after January 1, 2013
NO_x	0.5	0.07
CO	6.0	0.10
VOC	1.0	0.02

DG Units that produce combined heat and power may take a credit to meet the January 1, 2013, emission standard above. Credit shall be at the rate of one MW-hr for each 3.4 million Btu's of heat recovered. To take the credit, the following must apply:

- (1) DG Units are sold with combined heat and power technology integrated into a standardized package by the Applicant; and
 - (2) DG Units achieve a minimum energy efficiency of 60 percent.
- (d) DG Units must meet applicable emission standards for 15,000 hours of operation when operated and maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- (e) By July 2005, the ARB staff must complete an electrical generation technology review to evaluate if the requirements in (b) and (d) above and section 94207 should be modified and report its findings to the Board.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94204. Certification Procedure.

- (a) Each application for certification and the fee, as specified in section 94210, shall be submitted in a format approved by the Executive Officer and include, at a minimum, the following information:
- (1) name of the Applicant, a contact person, mailing address (street and electronic), and telephone number;
 - (2) a description of the DG Unit and model number;
 - (3) maximum output rating (kilowatt);
 - (4) fuel type and analysis for which certification is being sought;
 - (5) type or description of any emission control equipment used;
 - (6) listing of components of the DG Unit most critical to ensuring continued compliance with the emission limits (such as fuel injectors, rotors, seals and bearings for a microturbine and fuel cell stacks and catalysts for fuel cells); and,

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- (7) emission test data, supporting calculations, quality control/assurance information, and all other information needed to demonstrate compliance with the requirements in sections 94203 (a) through (d).
- (b) Within 30 calendar days of receipt of an application, the Executive Officer shall inform the Applicant in writing if the application is complete or deficient. If deemed deficient, the Executive Officer shall identify the specific information required to make the application complete.
- (c) Within 60 calendar days of the application being deemed complete, the Executive Officer shall issue or deny certification.
- (d) Upon finding that a DG Unit meets the requirements of this article, the Executive Officer shall issue an Executive Order of Certification for the DG Unit. The Executive Officer shall provide a copy of the Executive Order of Certification to the Applicant.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94205. Voluntary Certification.

DG Units that do not emit air contaminants while operating may submit information requested in section 94204 (a)(1) through (3), and any information necessary to demonstrate that there are no emissions of air contaminants, to the Executive Officer for voluntary certification.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94206. Labeling Requirements.

- (a) The Applicant shall affix a certification label on a visible location on each certified DG Unit.
- (b) The certification label must be of durable material and be permanently attached to the DG Unit.
- (c) The certification label must contain the year of the conforming emission standards, the fuel type used, and the number of the Executive Order of Certification.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94207. Testing.

- (a) Sampling methodology used must conform to ARB testing procedures. Alternate or modified test methods may be used if approved in writing by the Executive Officer prior to use for certification.

Testing shall be conducted in accordance with the following methods, which are incorporated by reference herein:

NO _x , CO, and Oxygen:	ARB Test Method 100 (as adopted on July 28, 1997)
VOC:	South Coast AQMD Method 25.3 (as published in March 2000)
Gas Velocity and Flow Rate:	ARB Test Methods 1, 2, 3, and 4 (as adopted on July 1, 1999)

- (b) Only natural gas, LPG, digester gas, landfill gas, or oil-field waste gas, as defined in section 94202, meeting the requirements of section 94207(d)(7) shall be used for certification testing. Other fuels may be used upon the written approval of the Executive Officer.
- (c) The DG Unit shall be configured as it will be marketed, including any additional control equipment or other devices that affect emissions.
- (d) Testing parameters.
 - (1) A minimum of three valid test runs must be conducted. Tests are to be run consecutively. Justification for invalid test runs or time gaps between runs must be included in the test report.
 - (2) Testing commences after the DG Unit has reached stable operation.
 - (3) Each run must be conducted at 100 percent of generator net output.
 - (A) A load bank may be used to establish the load.
 - (B) The DG Unit must be operated for a sufficient period of time to demonstrate stability in the emission readings at constant load and to ensure the collection of representative and quantifiable samples.
 - (4) Generator output (MW-hr), based on net output, shall be measured during each valid test run. A calibrated electric meter shall be used for the measurements. The meter shall meet the American National Standards Institute's Code for Electricity Metering (ANSI C12.1-as of July 9, 2001).
 - (5) Recovered heat shall be measured using a water loop device, measuring the water flow rate, inlet temperature, and outlet temperature.
 - (6) The emission rate shall be expressed in lb/MW-hr.
 - (7) Certification Fuels
 - (A) Natural gas.
 - (B) LPG that meets the standards of HD-5 propane.
 - (C) Surrogate digester gas that is composed of 60 to 65 percent methane and 35 to 40 percent CO₂, by volume.
 - (D) Surrogate landfill gas that is composed of 42 to 46 percent methane, 34 to 38 percent CO₂, and 18 to 22 percent N₂, by volume.

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(E) Surrogate oil-field waste gas that is composed of 63 to 71 percent methane, 6 to 8 percent ethane, 9 to 11 percent propane, 7 to 9 percent CO₂, and 7 to 8 percent carbon compounds with four or more carbon atoms per molecule, by volume.

(e) Alternative testing procedures may be used upon written approval of the Executive Officer, if alternative procedures are deemed to be equivalent or more accurate than the prescribed procedures.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94208. Recordkeeping.

- (a) The Applicant must retain all information used for the certification application.
- (b) Upon request of the Executive Officer, the Applicant will submit information to the ARB on the number and location of certified DG Units in California.
- (c) The Applicant shall maintain a log identifying the components listed pursuant to section 94204(a)(6) that are replaced, the date of replacement, and the hours of operation each replaced component was used.
- (d) All records maintained pursuant to this certification program must be retained for a period of five years after the certification has expired.
- (e) All records maintained pursuant to this certification program shall be submitted to the ARB upon request of the Executive Officer.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94209. Recertification.

- (a) Certification is valid for five years, except as specified in section (b) below.
- (b) Digester gas, landfill gas, and oil-field waste gas fueled DG Units certified pursuant to the January 1, 2008, emission standards of section 94203(c) shall be valid for five years, but no later than January 1, 2013.
- (c) To recertify, the applicant must submit information required in section 94204(a)(1) through (6), detail any changes to the design or operation of the DG Unit, and provide information to satisfy any new certification requirements since the time of initial certification or recertification.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94210. Fees.

- (a) Fees shall be due and payable to the Executive Officer at the time an application is filed.
- (b) DG Units will be assessed a fee of \$7,500 for certification.

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- (c) DG Units seeking voluntary certification through section 94205 will be assessed a fee of \$2,500 for certification or recertification.
- (d) DG Units meeting the January 1, 2013, requirements of section 94203(c) on or before January 1, 2008, will be exempt from certification fees. These units will be subject to fees upon recertification.
- (e) DG Units applying for recertification will be assessed a fee of either \$7,500 if a new source test is required as part of the application package, or \$2,500 if a new source test is not required.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94211. Inspection.

The Executive Officer, or an authorized representative of the Executive Officer, may periodically inspect manufacturers of DG Units for sale, lease, use or operation in California; distributors and retailers selling or leasing DG Units for use or operation in California; and operators of DG Units in California. The Executive Officer, or an authorized representative, may conduct any tests deemed necessary to ensure compliance with these regulations. Failure of a manufacturer, distributor, retailer, or operator to allow access for inspection purposes shall be grounds for suspension or revocation of certification.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94212. Denial, Suspension or Revocation of Certification.

- (a) The Executive Officer for just cause may deny, suspend or revoke an Executive Order of Certification in any of the following circumstances:
 - (1) the Applicant has materially misrepresented the meaning, findings, effect or any other material aspect of the certification application, including submitting false or incomplete information in its application for certification regardless of the Applicant's personal knowledge of the falsity or incompleteness of the information;
 - (2) the test data submitted by the Applicant to show compliance with this regulation have been found to be inaccurate or invalid; or
 - (3) the certified unit has failed in-use to comply with the findings set forth in the Executive Order. For the purposes of this section, noncompliance with the certification may include, but is not limited to:
 - (A) a repeated failure to perform to the standards set forth in this article;
 - (B) modification by the manufacturer of the DG Unit that results in an increase in emissions or changes the efficiency or operating conditions of such unit, without prior notice to and approval by the Executive Officer;

- (C) failure to comply with request to test in-use DG Units within 60 days of a written request by the Executive Officer; or
 - (D) failure to submit records required per section 94208 within 60 days of a written request by the Executive Officer.
- (4) The Applicant failed to comply with any other requirement set out herein.
- (b) A manufacturer may be denied certification or be subject to a suspension or revocation action pursuant to this section based upon the actions of an agent, employee, licensee, or other authorized representative.
 - (c) The Executive Officer shall notify a manufacturer by certified mail of any action taken by the Executive Officer to deny, suspend or revoke any certification granted under this article. The notice shall set forth the reasons for and evidence supporting the action(s) taken. A suspension or revocation is effective upon receipt of the notification.
 - (d) A manufacturer may request that the suspension or revocation be stayed pending a hearing under section 94213. In determining whether to grant the stay, the hearing officer shall consider the reasonable likelihood that the manufacturer will prevail on the merits of the appeal and the harm the manufacturer will likely suffer if the stay is not granted. The Executive Officer shall deny the stay if the adverse effects of the stay on the public health, safety, and welfare outweigh the harm to the manufacturer if the stay is not granted.
 - (e) Once an Executive Order of Certification has been suspended pursuant to (a) above, the manufacturer must satisfy and correct all noted reasons for the suspension and submit a written report to the Executive Officer advising him or her of all such steps taken by the manufacturer before the Executive Officer will consider reinstating the certification.
 - (f) After the Executive Officer suspends or revokes an Executive Order of Certification pursuant to this section and prior to commencement of a hearing under section 94213, if the manufacturer demonstrates to the Executive Officer satisfaction that the decision to suspend or revoke the certification was based on erroneous information, the Executive Officer will reinstate the certification.
 - (g) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Executive Officer from taking any other action provided for by law for violations of the Health and Safety Code.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

§ 94213. Appeals.

Any manufacturer whose application or certification has been denied, suspended, or revoked may request a hearing to review the action as provided herein.

- (a) Hearing Procedure: Except as provided for in section 94213(b) below, any appeal pursuant to this section 94213 shall be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Hearing Procedures for Petitions for Review of Executive Officer Decisions, Title 17 California Code of Regulation, Division 3. Chapter 1 Article 2, commencing with section 60055.1.

- (b) Review by written submission.
 - (1) In lieu of the hearing procedure set forth in (a) above, a manufacturer may request that a review of the Executive Officer's decision be conducted by a hearing officer solely by written submission.
 - (2) A manufacturer may request a review of the Executive Officer's decision to deny, suspend or revoke a certification no later than 20 days from the date of issuance of the notice of the denial, suspension, or revocation. Such a request shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - (A) name of the manufacturer, the name, address and telephone number of the person representing the manufacturer and a statement signed by a senior officer of the manufacturer warranting that the representative has full authority to bind the manufacturer as to all matters regarding the appeal;
 - (B) copy of the Executive Order granting certification and the written notification of denial;
 - (C) a statement of facts and explanation of the issues to be raised setting forth the basis for challenging the denial, suspension, or revocation (conclusory allegations will not suffice) together with all documents relevant to those issues; and
 - (D) the signature of the representative named in (A) above.
 - (3) Upon receipt of a request for review, the request shall be referred to the administrative hearing office of the state board for assignment of a hearing officer.
 - (4) Within 15 days of appointment of a hearing officer:
 - (A) ARB staff shall submit a written response to the manufacturer's submission and documents in support of the Executive Officer's action no later than 10 days after receipt of the manufacturer's submission;
 - (B) within 7 days of receipt of the ARB response, the manufacturer may submit one rebuttal statement which shall be limited to the issues raised in the ARB rebuttal;
 - (C) if the manufacturer submits a rebuttal, ARB staff may, within 7 days of receipt of the manufacturer's rebuttal, submit one rebuttal statement which shall be limited to the issues raised in the manufacturer's rebuttal; and
 - (D) the hearing officer shall receive all statements and documents and render a written decision. The hearing officer's decision shall be mailed to the manufacturer no later than 60 working days after the final deadline for submission of papers.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.

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§ 94214. Penalties.

In addition to suspension or revocation of certification as provided in section 94212, ARB may seek penalties under Health and Safety Code Division 26, Part 4., Chapter 4, Article 3 commencing with section 42400, for any violation of these regulations.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 39600, 39601 and 41514.9, Health and Safety Code.
Reference: Section 41514.9 Health and Safety Code.