

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT
FOR OCTOBER 2012 TRANSITIONAL GASOLINE

OCTOBER 11, 2012

The purpose of this technical guidance document is to add procedural detail to the Air Resources Board Advisory issued on October 7, 2012 (October 7th Advisory), which raises the Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) maximum limit of California gasoline for the remainder of the RVP regulatory control period to 9.00 psi through October 31, 2012. Specifically, this document addresses how to use the Predictive Model (Model) during this transitional period in October 2012. The Model is a set of equations that relate changes in fuel properties to changes in emissions. The producers and importers use the Model to certify alternative fuel limits that achieve equal or better emission reductions compared to the use of the flat or averaging limits in the California reformulated gasoline regulation (CaRFG).

When producing or importing gasoline in accordance with the October 7th Advisory, producers and importers must use the “winter version” of the CARBOB Model or Final Blend Model. If the producer or importer is using the CARBOB Model, the RVP of CARBOB produced or imported must not exceed 7.86 psi, which translates to a 9.00 psi RVP for the finished gasoline when blended with 10 percent ethanol. If the producer or importer is using the Final Blend Model, the RVP must not exceed 9.00 psi (the CARBOB Model and the Final Blend Model, when configured for “summer gasoline,” cannot be used to certify product under the October 7th Advisory because they are designed with an RVP cap of 5.99 psi for the CARBOB Model or 7.2 psi for the Final Blend Model).

A. CARBOB Model or Final Blend Model (last updated January 25, 2010)

If you are using the version of the CARBOB Model or the Final Blend Model that was last updated January 25, 2010, to produce or import CARBOB or Final Blend CaRFG in accordance with the October 7th Advisory:

1. Answer the question “Is this an RVP controlled gasoline (summer gasoline)?” with “N” for “No.” While this is not accurate, it is required to configure the model for certifying a non-RVP-controlled winter CARBOB or Final Blend CaRFG.
2. To be consistent with the regulatory requirements for certifying a winter CARBOB or Final Blend CaRFG, the RVP stated on the Model report is the minimum value and will be enforced as such.
3. Because the winter CARBOB Model Report or Final Blend Model Report does not allow for the reporting of a maximum RVP, use the comment section of the

Model Report to indicate that the batch is being certified under the October 7th Advisory.

B. CARBOB Model or Final Blend Model (approved by OAL on October 9, 2012)

If you are using the version of the CARBOB Model or Final Blend Model that was approved by OAL on October 9, 2012, to produce or import CARBOB or Final Blend CaRFG in accordance with the October 7th Advisory:

1. Input an RVP value greater than 5.99 psi in the CARBOB Model or greater than 7.2 psi in the Final Blend Model and the model will automatically be configured for certifying a non-RVP-controlled winter CARBOB or Final Blend CaRFG. (The remaining instructions remain the same as the instructions above.)
2. To be consistent with the regulatory requirements for certifying a winter CARBOB or Final Blend CaRFG, the RVP stated on the Model report is the minimum value and will be enforced as such.
3. Because the winter CARBOB Model Report and Final Blend Model Report do not allow for the reporting of a maximum RVP, use the comment section of the Model Report to indicate that the batch is being certified under the October 7th Advisory.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For any questions regarding this technical guidance document, please contact Mr. Adrian Cayabyab, at (916) 327-1515 or via email at acayabya@arb.ca.gov.