

Portable Power Equipment Manufacturers Association

CALIFORNIA ALERT

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Volume 1

***AIR RESOURCES BOARD EXPECTED TO HOLD HEARING ON PORTABLE
POWER EQUIPMENT RULES IN SPRING 1998.***

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) is expected to consider air quality regulations early next year that will effectively ban most two-cycle engine products, including small chain saws, brushcutters, blowers, string trimmers, and hedge trimmers. We need your help to be sure the regulators know how these new rules will hurt you and your business.

Who needs to hear from you?

The 11-members of the California Air Resources Board are the first people you need to contact. Let them know what impact banning two-cycle engine products will have. Your voice counts!

Write Governor Pete Wilson, too. He needs to know what you think.

**CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES
BOARD MEMBERS**

John D. Dunlap III, Chairman
Joseph C. Calhoun
Lynne T. Edgerton
Jack C. Parnell
Sally Rakow
Ron Roberts
Mark J. DeSaulnier
William F. Friedman, M.D.
Barbara Patrick
Barbara Riordan
James W. Silva

ADDRESS:

Air Resources Board
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Sacramento, CA 95812
916-322-5840
916-322-6003 (fax)

Honorable Pete Wilson
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-445-2841
916-445-4633 (FAX)

**COMPARISON OF EPA AND CARB REGULATIONS ON
HANDHELD, TWO-CYCLE ENGINE POWER EQUIPMENT**

<u>Air Quality Emission Reductions</u>	C Reduces smog-related emissions more than 50% from '90 levels	C Establishes a particulates standard of 1.5 grams per bhp/hr
<u>Effective Date</u>	C Phased in 2002-2005	C Eliminates 2-cycles engines as a technology option
<u>Particulates</u>	C Requires research program	C Durability testing required
<u>Technology</u>	C Technology review in 2001	C Bans 2-cycle engines in CA and forces electrics and micro 4-cycle engines* as alternatives
<u>Testing</u>	C Durability testing required	C Gasoline-powered equipment prices will more than double.
<u>Impact</u>	C Allows for new generation of cleaner 2-cycle engines	
	C Estimated unit price increase at retail level of \$30.	

Price

CARB Proposal

<u>EPA Proposal</u>	C Emissions <1% of total
	C Reduces smog-related emissions more than 80% from '90 levels
C Emissions <1% of total	C 2000

*Two manufacturers now sell micro four-cycle string trimmers. No company has yet announced plans to sell other handheld products using micro four-cycle technology.

Who is PPEMA?

The Portable Power Equipment Manufacturers Association (PPEMA) is the only U.S. trade association representing the manufacturers of handheld power equipment using two-cycle gasoline powered engines. Two-cycle engines are smaller, lighter, more versatile and best suited for providing power in portable

products.

Air Quality Regulations for Handheld Products

PPEMA strongly supports the adoption of reasonable air quality regulations for handheld products.

PPEMA worked successfully with CARB

and EPA in the early 1990s on regulations to reduce emissions from handheld products by more than 30%.

Recently, PPEMA worked with EPA and others on negotiating a Phase 2 federal program to further reduce emissions.

PPEMA fully supports the EPA Phase 2 program and has asked California

to adopt Phase 2 in place of the proposed CARB rules.

The EPA program will reduce smog related emissions by more than

50% from unregulated levels. It also provides for a research program to assess the health impact of particulate matter emissions from handheld

products and requires a technology review in 2001 that may set the stage for further regulations.

THE FACTS ABOUT THE CARB AND EPA PROGRAMS FOR PORTABLE POWER EQUIPMENT

- C Exhaust emissions from two-cycle products are insignificant — less than 1% of California's total air pollution.
- C Manufacturers are committed to cleaner air and already have reduced emissions from handheld products more than 30%.
- C Under the new EPA program slated to begin in 2002, emissions from handheld products will be reduced even more. New products will produce 50% fewer emissions than those sold prior to 1995.
- C CARB is asking for emissions from two-cycle engine products to be reduced a total of 81% — an extreme and unreasonable requirement given the small amount of emissions from these products, less than 1%.
- C Because no two-cycle engine product can meet California's current proposal, the result will be the elimination of virtually all such equipment in the State.
- C Eliminating two-cycle engine products could hamper fire prevention efforts and create potential safety problems in fire danger areas.
- C Eliminating two-cycle engine products will hurt consumers by making personal yard care more difficult and costly and professional yard care more expensive.
- C Eliminating two-cycle engine products will encourage increased water use for outdoor maintenance projects.
- C Alternatives to current two cycle engine products may cost more than twice current prices.
- C For virtually all handheld applications, there is no adequate substitute for two-cycle engine products.

SAMPLE LETTER to the Air Resources Board and Governor Wilson - Personalize it to fit your circumstances.

Dear :

The Air Resources Board is considering air quality regulations for handheld equipment that will virtually eliminate all two-cycle gasoline engine products in California. I strongly oppose these rules.

Exhaust emissions from two-cycle products are less than 1% of California's total smog problem. Equipment manufacturers have already committed to reducing product emissions 50%. CARB is trying to force an 81% emissions reduction. This is an unreasonable and extreme position especially when you look at how little pollution comes from two-cycle products.

The CARB proposal will eliminate virtually all small chain saws, string trimmers, blowers, and hedge trimmers in California. This will hurt fire prevention efforts, lead to a wasteful increase in water use for outdoor maintenance, and make yard care more difficult and expensive.

CARB should accept the EPA's 50% emissions reduction program for handheld products. Such a program is fair and reasonable.

Sincerely,
[Your name]

The Clock is running ...

Here's what needs to be done:

1. Get the word out. Copy this newsletter and distribute it to everyone you know who uses, sells, services or owns portable power equipment. Let them know about the proposed CARB rules for handheld equipment.
2. Write to the Members of the Air Resources Board and California Governor Pete Wilson. Tell them what you think about the CARB proposal.
3. Write letters to your local newspapers about the CARB proposal. Let the papers hear from the people who actually use and know these products.
4. Send out your letters now. Try to contact everyone during November, December and January. Give the members of the Air Resources Board time to think about your concerns. Give the newspapers time to print your letters.

HOW TO WRITE A LETTER THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Your letter will have the greatest impact if you stick to the facts and follow these simple guidelines:

KEEP IT SHORT. Even 3 or 4 sentences can be enough. Keep it simple. Try to limit your letter to no more than one page.

DRAW ON YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE. Tell your own story.

USE YOUR OWN WORDS. Form letters have less impact.

MORE IS BETTER. The more letters received by the Governor and the Air Resources Board on this issue the better.

_____ YES! I want to keep two-cycle power equipment in California. Please list me as a supporter and let me know how I can help.

Send to: PPEMA, 4340 East-West Highway, Suite 912, Bethesda, MD 20814
301-652-0774/301-654-6138 (fax)

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-Mail _____

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