



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
NATIONAL VEHICLE AND FUEL EMISSIONS LABORATORY
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OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

CISD-11-08 (All Industries)

July 5, 2011

SUBJECT: Processing of Hardship Exemptions Requests

Certain EPA regulations include provisions that enable the Agency to grant relief from fuel and emissions standards when a regulated party can demonstrate that compliance would cause severe hardship. As part of its implementation of these regulations, EPA is taking steps to expand public notice of requests for exemption from emissions and fuel quality standards.

Effective immediately, EPA will post all hardship exemption requests under the following regulations to its new hardship exemptions website, found at, <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/regs/hardship-exemptions/hardship.htm> EPA will also post its decision on the web site:

CFR 1039.630
CFR 1039.635
CFR 1068.245
CFR 1068.250
CFR 1068.255
CFR 80.1441(a)(2)
CFR 80.1335

EPA will accept comments for two weeks following posting from interested parties who wish to submit information that EPA may consider in determining whether to grant the request. However, EPA will not post or respond to any comments it receives.

We believe that public notification will enhance EPA's interest in conducting a fair and open process for evaluating requests for hardship exemptions. If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to complianceinfo@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karl J. Simon".

Karl J. Simon, Director
Compliance and Innovative Strategies Division
Office of Transportation and Air Quality