

California's Air Resources Board Harmonizes Certain Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicle and HDE Standards with Federal Standards – On December 7, 2000, ARB adopted regulations that will require auto manufacturers that certify light- or medium-duty vehicles to the Federal Tier 2 standards that are more stringent than the applicable California standard to sell the federal lower-emitting vehicle in California as well. These Tier 2 vehicles sold in California will also be required to meet California's OBD requirements and evaporative emission standards. ARB also aligned California's heavy-duty gasoline standards for 2005 and later model years with the more stringent federal NO_x 1.0 g/bhp-hr standard. Like the federal standards, ARB provided manufacturers the option of postponing to 2008 compliance with the 1.0 NO_x standard if they agreed to meet an interim 1.5 g/bhp-hr NO_x standard prior to 2005.