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W. James Wagoner
Air Pollution Control Officer

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Potential Owner/Operator of Engines Used in Agricultural Operations:

In November 2006, the California Air Resources Board adopted amendments to the Airborne Toxic Control Measure for Stationary Compression Ignition Engines (State ATCM) to include engines used in agricultural operations. The amendments to the State ATCM require that diesel engines used in agricultural operations meet Tiered diesel Particulate Matter (PM) emission standards and that the owner or operator register the engines with the local air quality management district. In general, to meet the Tiered emission standards, existing engines need to either be replaced with a new certified engine or the engine must be retrofitted with additional air pollution control equipment.

As allowed by the California Health and Safety Code, the Butte County Air Quality Management District (District) Governing Board adopted an alternative measure on April 26, 2007 that is at least as stringent in controlling diesel PM as the State ATCM. District Rule 1001 differs from the State ATCM in that remotely located engines are exempt from the PM standards. Remotely located engines are defined as engines located at least ½ mile from the nearest receptor (off-property residence, business, school, etc.).

Amendments are proposed to Rule 1001 to allow portable engines used exclusively in agricultural operations to be voluntarily registered and regulated as stationary engines. These changes would allow remotely located portable engines to be exempt from the diesel PM standards requirements and also may allow for incentive funding, such as the Carl Moyer program, to help in future engine replacements. Engines that are not registered as stationary must comply with the requirements of the ATCM for Diesel Particulate Matter from Portable Engines Rated at 50 Horsepower and Greater.

All stationary, compression ignition (e.g. diesel-fueled) engines used in agricultural operations in Butte County are required to register with the District. Owners or operators of existing engines must submit applications by March 1, 2008. Engines installed after January 1, 2008, must register within 90 days after installation. Copies of the registration forms are attached. Form 1 is for the generic company information and fee calculation. Form 2 requires specific information on each engine to be registered. These forms are also available in "auto-entry" Word format on the District website at www.bcaqmd.org, under the "Stationary Ag Engine" tab (lower left on the Home page).

The enclosed "FACT SHEET" summarizes the State regulation and District Rule 1001. If you have any questions regarding District Rule 1001, Ag Engine Registration, or the State ATCM, please call David Lusk or Ursula Parker at the District office at (530) 891-2882. Questions on the Carl Moyer program may be directed to Gail Williams at the same number.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "W. James Wagoner".

W. James Wagoner
Air Pollution Control Officer

Enclosures