

COMPLIANCE ADVISORY: Gasoline Dispensing Operations

Continued Use of Stage 1 Vapor Control Systems for Gasoline Storage Tanks in Clark County

This Compliance Advisory is intended for all currently active gasoline dispensing operations (GDOs) operating with or without a current Air Quality permit and capable of receiving, storing, and dispensing one or more grades of gasoline in Clark County, Nevada.

On April 11, 2011, Clark County's Air Quality Board repealed Section 52 of the Clark County Air Quality Regulations (AQRs). Section 52 governed the type of vapor control systems that GDOs dispensing gasoline in Clark County had to install, maintain, and operate. Section 52 was originally adopted as part of past federally approved Clean Air Plans. As such, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has the authority to determine which rules are to be retained. On January 14, 2016, the EPA disapproved Clark County's request to repeal Section 52. Therefore, Stage 1 vapor control requirements remain in effect and federally enforceable in Clark County.

The Department of Air Quality will propose to address this potential conflict with federal law by re-establishing Stage 1 requirements in the AQRs. Until these regulations are in place, **all active GDO operators must ensure that a Stage 1 vapor recovery system is installed, maintained, and operated in a vapor-tight and leak-free manner**, according to manufacturer specifications, and that **all gasoline is loaded into storage tanks using vapor recovery return lines**. Failure to do so could result in an EPA enforcement action.

If you have any questions, or need more information, please contact our Small Business Assistance Program staff: John Richardson, (702) 455-3455, or Bill Gray, (702) 455-1624.

Sincerely,



Chuck Richter, Compliance and Enforcement Manager (acting)

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(see reverse for FAQs)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is a Gasoline Dispensing Operation?

A GDO is any facility (except bulk distribution terminals) that can receive, store, and dispense one or more grades of gasoline. The corner gasoline station is a good example; however, a GDO can also be a privately owned company dispensing gasoline from a storage tank for vehicle fleets, car-sharing services, or motor pools. Some examples are rental-car facilities, auto dealerships, taxicab and limousine services, and casino operations.

Why is DAQ issuing this advisory?

In April 2011, Clark County's Air Quality Board repealed Section 52 of the AQRs. Section 52 governed the type of vapor control systems that GDOs dispensing gasoline in Clark County had to install, maintain, and operate. This past January, EPA disapproved Clark County's request to repeal Section 52. Therefore, Stage 1 vapor recovery requirements remain in effect and federally enforceable in Clark County.

What is an "enforcement action"?

EPA has the authority to take civil or criminal action against violators of environmental laws. These actions may result in expensive fines or, if the violation is serious enough, criminal charges.

As a GDO operator, what must I do?

You must make sure that a Stage 1 vapor recovery system is installed, maintained, and operated in a vapor-tight and leak-free manner, according to manufacturer specifications, and that all gasoline is loaded into storage tanks using vapor recovery return lines.

What are the next steps?

We will work with representatives from the regulated community, EPA, and state and local agencies to put the Stage 1 requirements back into the AQRs. Please check www.clarkcountynv.gov/airquality regularly for updates.