



f a c t s h e e t

MassDEP's Revised Stage I & II Regulations

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has amended its Air Pollution Control regulations (310 CMR 7.00 and 310 CMR 7.24) to require removal of Stage II vapor recovery systems and enhancements to Stage I vapor recovery equipment at gasoline dispensing facilities (GDFs). The revised regulations become effective on January 2, 2015. This fact sheet describes significant changes in the regulations.

Gasoline vapors contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone and also contain toxic chemicals. Stage I systems capture vapors displaced by the filling of storage tanks, and Stage II systems capture vapors displaced by the filling of vehicles. The new regulations update the vapor recovery program due to improved Stage I system technology and widespread adoption of vehicle on-board vapor recovery so that Stage II systems are no longer needed.

What Remains the Same? Basic operation of Stage I and Stage II systems (until they are removed) has not fundamentally changed and GDFs will continue to run their vapor recovery equipment for the most part as they did before the regulations were amended.

What's New/Different?

- 1. Removal of Stage II equipment:** GDFs must properly decommission existing Stage II systems within 2 years, with a possible two-year extension for facilities with an annual gasoline throughput of <500,000 gallons. At the time of decommissioning GDFs must install California Air Resources Board (CARB) Enhanced Vapor Recovery (EVR) pressure/vacuum vent valves and rotatable adapters (where applicable).
- 2. Phase-In CARB Stage I EVR Equipment:** GDFs must phase-in CARB EVR Stage I systems or EVR components. As specific components wear out or break, they must be replaced with EVR components so that within 7 years the GDF has an EVR system or one that is made up of all EVR components. There are two exceptions:
 - GDFs may continue to install "slip-on" spill buckets for 7 years. After 7 years, only EVR spill buckets may be installed.
 - GDFs with co-axial systems may continue to use them until the underground storage tank (UST) is replaced, at which point the new UST would need to be equipped with a CARB EVR dual-point Stage I system or component system.
- 3. Consistency with NESHAPS:** GDFs with a monthly throughput of 100,000 gallons or more must maintain Stage I systems that meet the same management practices required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's GDF air toxics rule (this will enable most GDFs to continue to avoid some federal requirements by complying with MassDEP's regulation).
- 4. New Requirements for Smaller GDFs:** The new Stage I regulations apply to all GDFs with gasoline tanks above 250 gallons. Smaller GDFs that were not part of the Stage II program will be subject to new Stage I equipment and routine operational requirements, including phase-in of Stage I EVR

components, weekly visual inspections, record keeping, annual testing and compliance certifications, and annual compliance fees.

5. **Other changes:** MassDEP revised certain definitions that relate to Stage I and Stage II, made other minor clarifying revisions, and deleted regulations regarding gasoline Reid vapor pressure and dispensing of E85 fuel/ethanol blends, which are no longer needed.

For More Information:

- Review the final regulation and response to comments received about the draft regulation, or download forms:
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/air/programs/stage-ii-vapor-recovery.html>
- Contact the MassDEP Stage I hotline: call 617-556-1035
- Contact the MassDEP Stage I Program in the region that covers the municipality in which your project is located:
 - Central Regional Office: 508/792-7683
 - Northeast Regional Office: 978/694-3200
 - Southeast Regional Office: 508/946-2714
 - Western Regional Office: 413/755-1100
 - Find Your Regional Office:
<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/about/contacts/>

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