

Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District

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ADVISORY

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Use of Permitted Emergency Equipment

This advisory provides owners and operators of permitted emergency equipment information about valid use of such equipment within the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (District).

Background

District Rule 301(E)(7)(g) specifies a flat annual permit renewal rate for certain permits permitted as 'emergency' engines, District Rule 1160(B)(2) exempts those engines defined as Emergency, and the District has established a specific class and category of permitted equipment as emergency for Best Available Control Technology purposes. Emergency engines are permitted with an "E" prefix permit number, and permit conditions which limit engine operation to testing, maintenance and emergency use only.

An emergency generator used at a facility normally serviced with commercial electrical power may be used during loss of commercial electrical power. An emergency generator used at a facility normally serviced with an alternative energy supply [such as solar or wind] may be used during loss of such alternative energy (but no more than 200 hours per year). An emergency engine driving a fire pump or deluge pump may be used during a fire emergency. An emergency engine driving an air compressor connected to a pneumatic system pressurized by a prime generator or commercial electrical power may be during loss of the prime generator or commercial electrical power, or for 'black starts' when so required.

Declared Emergencies and Loss of Power

The Governor of the State of California can declare a state of emergency for a specific time period, in which the declaration allows for the use of emergency generators. This is also considered an emergency for the use of permitted emergency generators by the District – permitted emergency generators may be operated with no penalty throughout the duration of the declared emergency (log the use and reason for use as required by permit condition). 'Loss of commercial or alternative power' includes any fluctuations of voltage or frequency in the commercial or alternative power which would damage connected systems or otherwise result in electrical system shutdown or hiatus – permitted emergency equipment may be operated with no penalty in this case (log the use and reason for use as required by permit condition).

Should you have any questions pertaining to this advisory, do not hesitate to contact our engineering section via phone (760-245-1661) or email (engineering@mdaqmd.ca.gov).