

UC San Diego

Diesel Idling Policy

This document serves to communicate departmental policy on on-road and off-road diesel idling, as required by the California Code of Regulations and the California Health & Safety Code. This policy applies to the operation of all diesel powered vehicles or equipment, owned by or located on, the University of California, San Diego campus, or any locations under the control of UC San Diego staff or personnel.

Rationale:

Diesel exhaust from idling engines can accumulate in and around the emission source and pose an exposure risk to the students, staff, driver, operator and the community at large. California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ([OEHHA](#)) has determined that diesel exhaust is "toxic" and that long-term exposure to diesel exhaust has the potential for an increased risk of cancer. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has issued restrictive regulations for diesel idling. Detailed information is available from Environmental Affairs upon request. The goal of this policy is to ensure UC San Diego compliance and its agents comply with the current regulatory requirements, thus eliminating all unnecessary idling of diesel engines on UC San Diego controlled property or by UC San Diego personnel and its agents.



Policy:

No vehicle or engine subject to the diesel regulation may idle for **more than 5 consecutive minutes**. This regulation took effect under California law on June 15, 2008. (California Code of Regulations, Title 13, Division 3, Article 1, Chapter 10, section 2485(c))

The following Standard Operating Procedure applies to all diesel powered vehicles or equipment located or used on UC San Diego Property. It is the responsibility of the department supervisor, operations manager, or other designated personal where diesel equipment is operating, to implement and enforce.

- All drivers/operators of diesel powered equipment shall be made aware of this policy when they operate on UC San Diego property and shall be provided a copy of the policy and requirements if requested.
- When drivers of diesel powered **on-road** vehicles arrive at loading or unloading areas to drop-off or pick-up passengers, supplies, food, goods, equipment, etc., they shall turn off their vehicle's engine as soon as possible but no later than five (5) minutes after arrival, unless otherwise necessary.
- Operators of **off-road** diesel powered equipment shall turn off their engines no later than five (5) minutes after the equipment is not performing its primary function.
- Idling for "**warm-up**" prior to diesel vehicle or equipment operations on UC San Diego property shall be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes.

- Diesel powered equipment associated with UC San Diego construction projects shall limit engine idling to equipment working periods only when, and only if, the availability of the equipment's function is required as part of an ongoing task.
- Diesel powered vehicles delivering goods and products to UC San Diego controlled construction sites shall be limited to a maximum idle time of five (5) minutes unless the diesel engine is being used to provide power for operation of off-loading equipment.

Exceptions:

No vehicle or engines subject to this regulation may idle for more than 5 consecutive minutes. Idling of a vehicle that is owned by a rental company is the responsibility of the renter or lessee, and the rental agreement should so indicate.

The idling limit does not apply to:

1. Idling when queuing.
2. Idling for verification that the vehicle is in safe operating condition.
3. Idling for testing, servicing, repairing or diagnostic purposes.
4. Idling necessary to accomplish work for which the vehicle was designed (such as operating a crane).
5. Idling required to bring the machine system to operating temperature, as specified by the manufacturer.
6. Idling necessary to ensure safe operation of the vehicle.

The idling limits are listed in the final regulation order on page 15, section 2449(d)(3)

For more information, links to the regulation language, fact sheets, and reporting forms, the off-road diesel homepage is on the California Air Resources Board website at:



<http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/ordiesel/ordiesel.htm>

To Report a Violation: Contact UC San Diego Environment, Health and Safety at ehsea@ucsd.edu or call 858-534-3660

Penalties:

In the case of a vehicle idling longer than 5 minutes, a \$300 citation per day of violation can be issued to the owner, renter or lessee of the vehicle for a first time violation. Subsequent penalties can be up to \$1,000 to \$10,000. (California Code of Regulations, Title 13, Division 3, Article 1, Chapter 10, 2485 (g))

Citations to the applicable CA laws:

California Code of Regulations, Title 13, Division 3, Article 1, Chapter 10, 1956.8

California Code of Regulations, Title 13, Division 3, Article 1, Chapter 10, 2485

California Code of Regulations, Title 13, Division 3, Article 1, Chapter 10, 2449(d)(3)

Contact UC San Diego Environmental Compliance Specialist Valerie Fanning at (858) 534-9695 or by email: vfanning@ucsd.edu for more information on this policy.