

Draft Proposed Regulation to Rescind 25 Pa. Code Chapter 126 Subchapter E – Pennsylvania Heavy-Duty Diesel Program

Bureau of Air Quality
May 2026





Background

- In 2002, EQB adopted Pennsylvania's Heavy-Duty Diesel Program (PA HDD Program).
- Certain requirements of California's Heavy-Duty Diesel Program (CA HDD Program) were incorporated by reference into 25 Pa. Code Chapter 126 Subchapter E.
- PA HDD Program was enforced until 2021 when it was suspended.
- PA HDD Program currently remains suspended until 1/2/2028.



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CA HDD Program

- Ongoing litigation over U.S. EPA's decision to revoke federal approval of CA HDD Program.
- On 9/23/2025, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) published a rule proposing to harmonize the CA HDD Program with the Federal HDD Program.
- On 11/7/2025, CARB postponed the vote on the emergency rule until a future date, effectively putting the rule on hold.



Purpose

- This proposed rulemaking would rescind 25 Pa. Code Subchapter E for the following reasons:
 - Regulatory uncertainty surrounding viability of the CA HDD Program.
 - Discussions between CARB and EPA to harmonize CA HDD Program with the Federal HDD Program are ongoing.



Purpose (continued)

- PA HDD Program served its intended purpose as a bridge between California standards and the subsequently established federal standards.
- DEP never sought federal approval of the PA HDD Program and did not claim emission reduction credits to assist in meeting federal air quality standards so there is no penalty for rescinding the program.



Impacts

- This rulemaking will not change environmental protection outcomes.
- Enforcement of PA HDD Program has been suspended since 2021.
- Because California is proposing to harmonize the CA HDD Program with the Federal HDD Program, PA would achieve same emissions reductions whether it kept PA HDD program or not.



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