

University of California Irvine

Diesel Powered Equipment Idling Policy

Applicability:

This policy applies to the operation of all diesel powered vehicles or equipment, owned by or located on, the University of California, Irvine (UCI) campus or any locations under the control of UCI staff or personnel. This policy is a direct result of legal requirements in California and failure to comply with the requirements of this policy, or any of its implementation measures, may result in appropriate disciplinary action at the discretion of UCI or its representative.

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 a potential for increased risk of cancer. The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has issued restrictive regulations for diesel idling in the state.

Purpose:

To ensure compliance by UCI and its agents with the current regulatory requirements and to eliminate all unnecessary idling of diesel engines on UCI controlled property or by UCI personnel or its agents.

Guidance:

No diesel engine or diesel powered equipment shall be idled on UCI property or by UCI personnel or an agent of UCI for more than five (5) minutes unless one or more of the following conditions exist:

1. idling required when queuing,
2. idling to verify the vehicle or equipment is in safe operating condition,
3. idling to provide services in the event of an emergency specifically for protection of human health, safety, or the environment,
4. idling required for engine or equipment testing, servicing, repairing, or diagnostics,
5. idling to accomplish work for which the vehicle or equipment was designed (lifting, power generation, mixing, pumping, etc.),
6. idling required to bring the diesel powered system to a predetermined minimum operating temperature per manufacturers requirements, or
7. idling to ensure the health and safety of the equipment operator.

Policy:

The following standard operating procedure shall apply to all diesel powered vehicles or equipment located on or used on UCI property. All UCI personnel or agents of UCI that operate diesel powered equipment shall be made aware of this policy prior to operations and refreshed as

necessary. It is the responsibility of the department supervisor, operations manager, or other designated personnel where diesel equipment is operating to implement and enforce this policy.

1. All drivers/operators of diesel powered equipment and/or their companies shall be made aware of this policy when they operate on UCI property and shall be provided a copy of the policy and requirements if requested.
2. UCI staff or agents functioning as operators of diesel powered vehicles or equipment on behalf of UCI shall be instructed on this policy and record of that instruction maintained by UCI for a minimum of three (3) years.
3. 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.
4. Operators of **off-road** diesel powered equipment shall turn off their engines when the equipment is not performing its primary function but no later than five (5) minutes after the equipment is not performing its primary function.
5. Idling for **“warm-up”** prior to diesel vehicle or equipment operations on UCI property shall be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes.
6. Locations where diesel powered vehicles normally work/idle or are expected to arrive and idle shall have a sign posted that informs the driver of the 5 minute idling restriction.
7. Diesel powered equipment associated with UCI construction projects shall limit engine idling to equipment working periods only and only if the availability of the equipment's function is required as part of an ongoing task.
8. Diesel powered vehicles delivering goods and products to UCI 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:

The following specific exceptions to the five (5) minute maximum idling requirement are included in this policy. Special situations may arise from time to time and a request for exemption from these policy requirements should be directed through and approved by Environmental Health and Safety. Such exemptions will be documented and limited to specific situations. Such “special exemptions” should not be considered a “general” exemption to this policy.

1. Idling when the vehicle/equipment must remain motionless due to traffic conditions, an official traffic control device, an official traffic control signal, at the direction of a peace officer, or other situation where the driver has no discretionary control;
2. Idling when the vehicle/equipment is “queuing” as part of normal operations and procedures;
3. Idling when the vehicle/equipment is forced to remain motionless due to weather or any other condition adversely affecting the safe operation of the vehicle;
4. Idling when the vehicle/equipment is forced to remain motionless due to mechanical difficulties over which the driver has no control;
5. Operation of the diesel engine for required testing, servicing, repairing, security or diagnostic purposes outside the normal maintenance area;
6. Idling of the diesel engine to operate equipment necessary to prevent a safety or health emergency or for providing emergency services for which the vehicle was designed;

7. Idling of the diesel engine when it is directly connected to or providing auxiliary power either as a “power take-off” or equivalent for:
 - a. operating a lift, crane, pump, drill, hoist, mixer, etc.
 - b. providing mechanical work functions for which the vehicle or equipment was designed.
 - c. collection or transfer of waste or recyclable materials by an authorized agency or contractor.

Any questions or situations related to this policy or requests for exemptions to this policy should be directed through UCI Environmental Health and Safety (949)824-6200.

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)