

April 20th, 2010

Attention

This letter is to remind you of a new regulation for commercial diesel vehicles. By October 1, 2010, all B.C.-registered commercial diesel vehicles of model years 1989-1993 with a licensed gross vehicle weight of more than 8,200 kg must install an emission reduction device.

ICBC records indicate you are the owner of at least one vehicle that fits this description.

In 2007, British Columbia announced it would be the first jurisdiction in Canada to make clean technology mandatory in older commercial diesel vehicles. Through its Air Action Plan, released in 2008, the Province established the retrofit requirement to reduce harmful particulate matter emissions from heavy polluting vehicles by at least 20 per cent. Particulate matter (PM) from diesel exhaust is a major source of air pollution, which can lead to cardiovascular disease, respiratory diseases, chronic obstructive lung disease, chronic bronchitis, pneumonia, heart disease and lung cancer.

As an owner/operator of a vehicle that requires a retrofit you will need to contact your mechanic or manufacturer as soon as possible to confirm that your vehicle qualifies and to determine which device is compatible with your vehicle. **Delivery of the devices can take up to eight weeks**, so it is important to order the device right away. Again, the requirement to comply with the new regulation comes into effect on October 1, 2010.

The most common type of device is a diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC) filter. These devices are easily installed on the exhaust pipe, do not affect fuel economy and require little or no maintenance. They reduce PM emissions by 20-50 per cent and hydrocarbon and carbon monoxide by 40-90 per cent. They are most effective when used with ultra-low sulphur diesel fuel.

To learn more about devices that meet this requirement, you can visit the websites of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or California Air Resource Board where you will find a list of approved devices and compatible vehicles.

- <http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/vt/cvt.htm>
- <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/retrofit/verif-list.htm>

The cost of retrofitting a vehicle may range between \$1,200 and \$2,500, depending on the device type, vehicle engine size and model, exhaust configuration, installation costs and shipping.

After October 1, 2010 your vehicle will be checked for a retrofit at your next required vehicle inspection at a Designated Inspection Facility. Roadside Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) may also check for compliance.

For further information about this requirement, including Frequently Asked Questions, visit the CVSE website: http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse/diesel_retrofit/index.htm.

For specific questions about the requirement contact: diesel.retrofit@gov.bc.ca or call (250)356-9797.

For technical questions about the vehicle retrofit, you may wish to contact your mechanic or vehicle manufacturer.

For more information about B.C.'s Air Action Plan, visit: <http://www.bcairsmart.ca/>.

NOTE: This letter contains important information regarding your vehicle inspection. If you prefer a translated version of this letter visit the CVSE website: www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse/diesel_retrofit/.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Gilks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Greg Gilks

Director, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure