

Notice of Exemption

2020050178

Project Title: Variance from Small Off-Road Engine Evaporative Emission Carbon Canister Capacity Requirements – American Honda Motor Corporation

Project Location: Statewide

Public Meeting Date: December 20, 2019

Project Description: California Air Resources Board has established a certification process for evaporative emission control systems that are required for the control of small off-road engine evaporative emissions (SORE EE) as described in title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 2753. Section 2768 allows a manufacturer to apply for a variance from one or more SORE EE regulatory requirements when necessary to avoid extraordinary economic hardship beyond the reasonable control of the manufacturer, if specific findings can be made and if noncompliance is mitigated to the maximum extent feasible. American Honda Motor Corporation (AHM) applied for a variance from the Canister Capacity Requirements on November 13, 2019 for evaporative family numbers HNXCC13A, HNXCC13B, HNXCC19A, HNXCC23A, HNXCCW2A, HNXCM21A, HNXCM22A, HNXCM15A, HNXCM18A, HNXCM27A, and HNXCM29A, model years 2020 and 2021.

This notice is to advise that the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board), as the lead agency, considered the above action on December 20, 2019 at a noticed public hearing, and approved the action on April 16, 2020 (Executive Order U-U-001-0967).

Issuance of this variance is a project as defined by CEQA, but is exempt from further CEQA environmental analysis under three provisions of the CEQA Guidelines:

- Under title 14 CCR section 15061(b)(3), because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the variance will have a significant effect on the environment because the issuance of the variance will not result in excess emissions as American Honda Motor Corporation (AHM) will be required to fully offset excess emissions through the certification averaging and banking program;
- Under title 14 CCR section 15308, because the variance is protective of the environment by requiring AHM, through full mitigation of excess emissions, to maintain the emissions control benefits that would have occurred if the evaporative families had fully complied with the Carbon Canister Capacity Requirements; and

- Under title 14 CCR section 15321, because the issuance of the variance is an action for prospective enforcement of the Carbon Canister Capacity Requirements after AHM proactively indicated that the evaporative families could not comply with the requirements, and the variance will ensure that that the evaporative families subject to this variance will achieve the same SORE EE standards as if AHM used compliant canisters in model years 2020 and 2021.

The documents may be examined at:

California Air Resources Board
Attn: CEQA Unit
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Certified: Nicole Haven
CARB CEQA Unit

Date: 5/07/2020

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAY 07 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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Resources Agency of California