



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D C 20460

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OFFICE OF
AIR, NOISE, AND RADIATION
(ANR-490)

On January 19, 1981, the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency signed a one year deferral of the effective dates for more stringent noise emission regulations for medium and heavy trucks and truck-mounted solid waste compactors which were scheduled to go into effect in 1982.

Based on the current economic state of the trucking industry, the Agency believed that it was appropriate to defer the January 1, 1982 effective date of the 80 dB regulation for medium and heavy trucks for one year until January 1, 1983.

Since the 76 dB noise regulation for truck-mounted solid waste compactors is related to the 80 dB level for truck chassis, the effective date of the compactor regulation was deferred one year from July 1, 1982 to July 1, 1983.

The deferral in effective dates was expected to provide immediate relief to the industry's cash flow problems which appear to be particularly acute at this time.

Since publication of the deferral in effective dates, the Agency has received renewed requests to rescind the 80 dB regulation for medium and heavy trucks. The Agency is now requesting additional public comment on whether or not the 80 dB noise regulation for medium and heavy trucks should be rescinded.

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Federal Register Notice requesting the additional comments (46 FR 17558, Thursday, March 19, 1981).

For further information, contact Timothy M. Barry, Program Manager, Standards and Regulations Division, (ANR-490), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington D.C., 20460, or phone (703) 557-2710.

Sincerely,

Henry E. Thomas
Director
Standards and Regulations Division

Enclosure

40 CFR Part 205

(NH FRL 1752-7)

Noise Emission Standards: Medium and Heavy Trucks and Truck Mounted Solid Waste Compactors**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.**ACTION:** Request for additional comments; final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency is requesting comments on whether or not to rescind the 80 dB noise standard regulation for heavy and medium trucks. The EPA is seeking additional comments because of the renewed request for rescission of this standard since EPA published the deferrals of effective dates.

DATE: EPA will consider all written comments on whether or not to rescind the 80 dB regulation for medium, and

heavy trucks, which are received before 4:30 p.m., April 24, 1981.

ADDRESSES: Written comments to the docket should be mailed to: Director, Standards and Regulations Division, Attention: ONAC Docket 81-02 (Medium and Heavy Trucks), ANR-490, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C. 20460. Copies of the related correspondence and other supporting documents are available for public inspection between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm at the Central Docket Section of the Environmental Protection Agency, West Tower, Gallery 1, 401 M Street, SW., Washington, D.C. 20460. As provided in 40 CFR Part 2, a reasonable fee may be charged for copying services.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy Barry, Program Manager, Standards and Regulations Division, (ANR-490), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C. 20460; or phone (202) 557-2710.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 27, 1981 (46 FR 8497) the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, (EPA) deferred the effective date of the 80 decibel (dB) noise emission regulation for medium and heavy trucks from January 1, 1982 to January 1, 1983. The action was taken in response to petitions submitted by the International Harvester Company and Mack Trucks, Incorporated requesting reconsideration of that regulation. The purpose of the Agency action was to provide temporary relief to the truck manufacturing industry from expenditures otherwise needed to bring their medium and heavy trucks into compliance with the 1982, 80 dB regulation. The basis for the action was the recent downturn in the economic condition of the truck manufacturing industry and an unforeseen increase in the demand for medium diesel trucks, which are the most costly to quiet.

Because the 76 dB noise emission regulation for truck-mounted solid waste compactors is related to the 80 dB level for truck chassis, the effective date for the 76 dB compactor regulation was also deferred, from July 1, 1982 to July 1, 1983.

Since publication of the deferrals in effective dates, EPA has received renewed requests to rescind the 80 dB regulation for medium and heavy trucks. This notice is to request public comment on whether or not the Agency should rescind the 80 dB noise regulation for medium and heavy trucks.

Dated: March 13, 1981.

Edward F. Tuerk,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Air, Noise and Radiation.

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