



# Air Resources Board



**Matthew Rodriguez**  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

**Mary D. Nichols, Chair**  
1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815  
Sacramento, California 95812 • [www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov)

**Edmund G. Brown Jr.**  
Governor

April 27, 2017

Mr. John McKnight  
Senior Vice-President, Government Relations  
National Marine Manufacturers Association  
650 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 520  
Washington DC 20001

Dear Mr. McKnight:

Thank you for your letter dated April 25, 2017, in which you requested that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) provide additional time for boat builders to come into full compliance with new evaporative emissions control requirements for 2018 Model Year (MY) spark-ignition marine watercraft (SIMW). CARB staff has worked closely with the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) to streamline the certification process, provide outreach to boat builders and evaporative control component manufacturers, and address technical questions and concerns that have arisen throughout the process. I would like to acknowledge the work that you and NMMA have done in preparing boat builders for the upcoming implementation of the SIMW regulation.

In spite of the efforts put forth by both NMMA and CARB staff, we are fully aware that there is not an adequate selection of CARB-certified SIMW evaporative control components available to meet the industry's needs for the 2018MY that is quickly approaching. We understand that the lack of certified diurnal components (carbon canisters and pressure relief valves) is a critical concern for boat builders who must finalize designs of their evaporative systems for 2018MY SIMW to be marketed in California beginning June 1, 2017.

We agree with your proposed solution to this problem, and are willing to delay enforcing the requirement for CARB-certified diurnal components (carbon canisters and pressure relief valves) until the 2019MY. All other provisions of California's regulations to control evaporative emissions from SIMW will be enforced as adopted, meaning that all boat builders must obtain a CARB Executive Order for their 2018MY vessels prior to offering them for sale in California. For the 2018MY, Executive Orders will be issued for vessels with evaporative systems comprised of CARB-approved tanks and fuel hoses, fuel injection, and U.S. EPA-approved carbon canisters and/or pressure relief valves.

*The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.*

California Environmental Protection Agency


Mr. John McKnight  
April 27, 2017  
Page 2

Allowing the use of U.S. EPA-approved diurnal components for 2018MY SIMW will provide the additional time needed for carbon canister and pressure relief valve manufacturers to obtain CARB component certification. However, California's evaporative control regulations will be enforced for 2019MY SIMW without exception, and only CARB-certified components will be allowed at that time. No further relaxation of this regulation will be granted, so it is important that diurnal component manufacturers continue working to obtain CARB certification in a timely manner. We appreciate NMMA's commitment to ensuring the full implementation of California's SIMW evaporative control requirements by the 2019MY. In line with that commitment, CARB is requesting that NMMA provide quarterly reports from each diurnal component manufacturer showing that they are making progress toward CARB certification. These quarterly reports should outline each manufacturer's current status and proposed timeline for obtaining CARB certification prior to the start of the 2019MY.

I trust that the relief described in this letter provides your industry with a clear path toward compliance in 2018MY and beyond. CARB staff look forward to receiving boat builders' applications as soon as possible so that we can begin the certification process. CARB technical staff will also continue working with evaporative system component manufacturers to ensure that a broad selection of components is commercially available and accessible to boat builders prior to the start of 2019MY.

Please provide the requested quarterly status reports to Dr. Michael Benjamin, Chief of the Monitoring and Laboratory Division at (916) via email at [michael.benjamin@arb.ca.gov](mailto:michael.benjamin@arb.ca.gov). Dr. Benjamin is also available at the same email or at (916) 323-2915 if you have any additional questions about this letter or the SIMW evaporative requirements in general.

Sincerely,



Richard W. Corey  
Executive Officer

cc: Michael Benjamin, MLD

Mr. John McKnight  
April 27, 2017  
Page 3

bcc: Alberto Ayala, EO  
Annette Hebert, ECARS  
Jackie Lourenco, ECARS  
Mike Miguel, MLD