



FAQ: Use of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Trucks under the ACF*

Can I still use my existing CNG truck under the ACF?

Yes. Those with CNG trucks in their California fleet prior to January 1, 2024 can continue to operate those trucks.

How can I still purchase a CNG truck under the ACF?

There are several pathways under which a fleet owner can continue to purchase new CNG trucks to add to their California fleet. Purchasing CNG trucks powered by renewable natural gas (RNG) can provide a readily available alternative to “legacy” diesel trucks that can help fleets meet their sustainability goals immediately using a low carbon, cost-effective, CARB-certified option with a built-out fueling network.

High Priority and Federal Fleets:

- **Model Year Schedule (default compliance path).** You can continue to use your existing CNG-fueled truck up to and through the year it exceeds its statutory Useful Life. You will only be able to add new CNG trucks to your California fleet after January 1, 2024 with a CARB-issued exemption, unless you purchased it prior to the effective date of the ACF regulation.
- **ZEV Milestones Option (opt-in compliance path).** Under this option, you can purchase new CNG trucks for your fleet once you reach your Milestone Group requirement. You can achieve your milestone calculation with any mix of trucks in your specified Group¹.

Near-Zero Emission Vehicles (NZEV):

- Through 2035, NZEVs, defined as hybrid plug-ins, are counted the same as zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) for purposes of the ACF. Combustion technology is agnostic and can include RNG. NZEVs are not subject to the Useful Life requirements. This provision does not apply to drayage.

State and Local Government Agency Fleets:

- **Existing CNG Trucks.** You can continue to operate your existing CNG truck as long as you want because public fleets are not subject to the SB 1 Useful Life requirement.
- **Truck Purchases.** Beginning January 1, 2024, CNG trucks can be purchased without exemption through 2027 as long as they are no more than 50% of the fleet additions in a given year. State or local government agencies with ten or fewer trucks or those servicing a designated low population county can add CNG trucks to their fleet until 2027.
- **No Retirement Mandate.** There is no mandated retirement of your CNG trucks under this section of the ACF.

¹ “Any ZEVs Count for Compliance. Any ZEV from any Milestone Group can be used to count toward the fleet’s ZEV Fleet Milestone requirement. For example, a fleet with box trucks and day cab tractors can meet the total ZEV Fleet Milestone requirement with ZEV day cab tractors instead of ZEV box trucks.” [HPFF Section 2015.2\(c\)](#).

Can smaller fleets still purchase CNG trucks?

Likely Yes. Fleets that have less than 50 trucks and less than \$50 million in total gross annual revenues are generally not subject to the ACF and can continue to purchase CNG trucks.

However, small fleets under common ownership and control of that controlling entity could be subject to the ACF if the aggregate truck count of the controlling entity is 50 or greater.

How can I continue to use my existing CNG drayage truck under ACF?

CNG drayage trucks registered in the CARB Online System prior to January 1, 2024 can continue to operate until January 1, 2035 provided:

- The truck visits a California seaport or intermodal railyard at least once annually, and
- The truck does not exceed its Useful Life threshold.

There are also several provisions that will allow you to continue using your CNG drayage trucks when certain conditions are met².

Can drayage fleets still purchase CNG trucks under the ACF?

New CNG trucks cannot be registered and added into the CARB Online System beginning January 1, 2024. Starting in 2035, only zero-emission drayage trucks will be allowed to provide drayage services in California.

Under what exemptions am I allowed to purchase CNG trucks?

Fleets who qualify for and are granted an exemption under the following provisions may purchase CNG trucks according to the terms and conditions of the relevant provisions:

- Daily Usage Exemption
- ZEV Purchase Exemption
- Declared Emergency Event: Mutual Aid Assistance
- Non-Repairable Vehicle provision

² Vehicle Delivery Delay Extension [Section 2014.2(a)] and the Infrastructure Delay Extensions [Section 2014.2(b)]