



FAQ: Use of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Trucks under the ACF¹

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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.

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 state and local government (SLG) fleet can continue to purchase new CNG trucks to add to their California fleet.

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 Purchases².** CNG trucks can be purchased without exemption through 2030 as long as they are no more than 50% of the fleet additions in a given year. State or local government agencies with 10 or fewer trucks and fleets operating in a designated low-population county are exempt from the ZEV purchase requirement through 2030 and may continue purchasing CNG vehicles during that period.
- **No Retirement Mandate.** There is no mandated retirement of your SLG CNG trucks under the ACF.

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.

High Priority, Federal and Drayage Fleets:

- These fleets are no longer subject to the ACF per amendments approved by CARB on September 25, 2025³. These fleets can purchase whatever is legal in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws.

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

¹ Disclaimer: Please note that the descriptions below are for informational purposes only. It is the responsibility of every fleet to conduct your own research to determine whether your operations are in compliance with the various provisions of the ACF regulation.

² California Air Resources Board. (2025, September 25). *CARB adds flexibility to truck fleet requirements with amendments to help owners continue zero-emission progress.* <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/news/carb-adds-flexibility-truck-fleet-requirements-amendments-help-owners-continue-zero-emission>

³ Id.