

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

SUBJECT	Number	Issue	Page
	90.72	1	1 of 3
MOTIVE EQUIPMENT IDLING REDUCTION POLICY	Effective Date May 30, 2007		

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for idling of the City of San Diego's motive equipment.

2. Policy

The City of San Diego is committed to improving the health and quality of life of its citizens. An essential part of that commitment is to institute operational policies for its employees that actively promote clean air. The unnecessary idling of motive equipment degrades air quality, wastes fuel and accelerates engine wear. Limiting idling times reduces air pollution in addition to decreasing fuel costs and engine wear. Idling of motive equipment shall be prohibited unless "mission necessary".

3. Scope

This policy applies to all City employees operating motive equipment owned or leased by the City of San Diego.

3. Definitions

3.1 Idling


Idling means the operation of motive equipment while it is not in motion and is not being used to operate auxiliary equipment that is essential to the operation of the motive equipment.

3.2 Fuels

For the purpose of this policy, this includes all motive equipment that is powered by fossil fuels, which include gasoline, diesel, propane, and natural gas.

(New Administrative Regulation)

Authorized


CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

SUBJECT	Number 90.72	Issue 1	Page 2 of 3
MOTIVE EQUIPMENT IDLING REDUCTION POLICY	Effective Date May 30, 2007		

3.3 Motive Equipment

For the purposes of this policy, motive equipment refers to vehicles (such as cars, vans and light trucks), heavy trucks (such as dump trucks, street sweepers and refuse packers), and equipment (such as loaders, backhoes, and others used in construction work) that operated by City employees and utilize fossil fuels.

4. Guidelines

- 4.1 Modern diesel and gasoline engines are designed to start easily and to be operated following a very short warm-up period – not more than 30 seconds even in cold weather.
- 4.2 Motive equipment shall be turned off immediately when arriving at designated loading and unloading areas. Motive equipment shall not be restarted until it is ready to depart and there is a clear path to the exit.
- 4.3 Motive equipment shall not idle while the operator is away from the motive equipment or while waiting for passenger pick-up activities.
- 4.4 When “mission requirements” necessitate vehicle power to operate systems, pre-mission planning should be completed to keep idle time to a minimum.
- 4.5 All service delivery motive equipment shall be turned off while off/up loading except where vehicle power is required to accomplish the task.

5. Exceptions

- 5.1 Emergency motive equipment, such as police, fire-rescue or ambulance services, while engaged in operational activities.
- 5.2 Motive equipment assisting in an emergency activity.
- 5.3 Where engine use is necessary for an associated power need such as, but not limited to, electrical power, compressed air, and various power take-off devices such as auxiliary hydraulics.
- 5.4 Motive equipment may idle for the purpose of defogging, defrosting or deicing windows, but shall end when the conditions have been eliminated.

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

SUBJECT	Number	Issue	Page
	90.72	1	3 of 3
MOTIVE EQUIPMENT IDLING REDUCTION POLICY	Effective Date May 30, 2007		

- 5.5. Motive equipment used solely to power emergency lighting and 2-way radios can operate the lighting for 30 minutes and can be idled at intervals to charge batteries. Some motive equipment have a dual battery system or step down devices and the lighting can be operated for long periods without idling.
- 5.6 Idling motive equipment for the purpose of getting staff warm and/or dry if indoor accommodations are not available at the work site.
- 5.7 During the summer periods of extreme heat, extended idling periods may be necessary for the well being of the operator and passengers.
- 5.8 Motive equipment being serviced or inspected.
- 5.9 Idling time during start up at parking areas shall be limited to manufacturer's recommendations or pre-mission checks.
- 5.10 Where safety may be compromised by shutting down the engine, motive equipment may idle at the discretion of the operator.

Administering Department

General Services