Fuel Waiver Actions

EPA works with the Department of Energy (DOE) to issue temporary, emergency waivers when necessary to facilities in the fuel production and distribution system to minimize disruptions to the fuel supply that may result from hurricanes.

How it Works

Fuel waivers allow facilities in the fuel production and distribution system to temporarily bypass certain clean air fuel standards for gasoline and diesel for a limited amount of time.

EPA issues waivers, as appropriate, to help ensure that adequate fuel supply is available, particularly for emergency vehicle needs, despite disruptions caused by hurricanes.

To mitigate any potential impacts to air quality, the Clean Air Act provides strict criteria for when fuels waivers may be granted, and requires that waivers be limited as much as possible in terms of their geographic scope and duration.

EPA’s Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) and Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) coordinate actions related to the fuels industry during emergency response activities through DOE, EPA Regional Offices and EPA’s Office of General Counsel.

EPA Monitors Storms

In the event of storms, EPA and DOE actively monitor the fuel supply situation, and are prepared to act expeditiously if extreme and unusual supply circumstances exist in areas impacted by major storms.

For the most up-to-date information on current fuel waivers, please visit:
https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/fuel-waivers