Continuous Testing Program Pilot Overview

Michael Sacco BAR Audits and Inspections Branch July 31, 2025



Introduction/Background

- Pilot began in 2002
- Voluntary pilot program open only to government agencies operating registration exempt vehicles
- Agencies participate in program in lieu of biennial Smog Check inspection
- Transmission of OBD II information to BAR

Statutory Authority

- Health and Safety Code Section 44019
 - All vehicles owned by public agencies require emissions testing
 - All affected public agencies must report to BAR
- Health and Safety Code Section 44024(a)
 - Authorizes BAR to investigate new technologies
 - Includes the role of OBD systems to detect emissions defects
- Health and Safety Code Section 44024.5(d)
 - Authorizes BAR to conduct pilot program
 - Participation in program may be in lieu of emissions inspections

Current Participation

- 150 government agencies
- Open to registration exempt vehicles only
- Approximately 39,000 vehicles
- Five telematics vendors

Benefits to Agencies

- Streamlines annual reporting to BAR
- Allows for closer monitoring of each agency's fleet
- Cost savings
- Telematics solutions may have additional benefits

Benefits to BAR

- Data used to evaluate OBD II effectiveness
- Streamlines fleet reporting process
- Allows BAR to compile and maintain emissions data to assess the Smog Check Program

CTP Enrollment

- Complete and submit enrollment application
- Complete and submit vehicle inventory sheet
 - All vehicle information must be correct (VIN, BAR File Number, etc.)
- Provide BAR with daily report from vendor
 - Procedures may vary depending on vendor

Participating Agency's Responsibilities

- Work with vendor to provide BAR with daily Smog Check report
- Repair emissions defects within specified time frame
- Adhere to all other program requirements

Participating Vendor's Responsibilities

- Provide BAR with daily Smog Check report from participating agencies
- Comply with conditions outlined in the Data Requirements Specification
- Adhere to all other program requirements

Next Steps

- Develop regulations to establish a permanent program
 - No changes to the scope of eligible vehicles
 - Leverage technology to increase efficiency
 - Codify standards for program compliance
 - Codify off-cycle repair requirements

Contact Information

Michael Sacco michael.sacco@dca.ca.gov

www.bar.ca.gov

