

Customer Service Enhancements to

the Vehicle Emissions Inspection

Program (VEIP)



AQCAC Meeting - June 19, 2017





- Significant air quality progress has been made in Maryland over the last decade
- Major advancements in vehicle technology and testing methods have also occurred
- Major, new emission reduction programs are on the way
- Maryland is looking for opportunities to provide enhanced customer service to Marylanders
- Because of this, we are reinventing the VEIP to catch up with technology, modernize and simplify the program







VEIP Reinvention

- Step 1 Initiation of Kiosk program in 2015
 - No regulation changes required
- Step 2 Today's proposed regulatory changes
 - New vehicles get 1 extra year until they get tested
 - Elimination of part of the outdated "idle" test through the exemption of pre-1996 light duty vehicles
- Step 3 Additional customer service enhancements under consideration between 2018 and 2022
 - New technologies like remote OBD (On-Board Diagnostics)
 - Other enhancements





Background

- VEIP has been a cornerstone air quality program in Maryland for three decades
 - Marylanders have been "paying it forward"
- New vehicles are now amazingly clean ... emission standards get tougher each year
 - Vehicles in 2017 are also very dependable ... they maintain the lower emissions levels for a longer time
- New emission control programs like the Tier 3 vehicle and fuel standards, the Cross State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) and the Maryland 126 Petition (both target power plants) are on the way
- Emissions testing technology is far superior to past methods
 - Computerized OBD testing is now possible on the vast majority of the fleet
 - Much more thorough and virtually non-invasive compared to older test types







A Snapshot - The Customer Service VEIP Enhancements

- Delay initial test for new vehicles by one year
 - From the current two years to three years
 - Vast improvement in motorist convenience
- Exempt pre-OBD technology light duty vehicles
 - Move toward an OBD-only program
- These are common sense enhancements that improve customer service, and allow Marylanders to benefit from vehicle technology and the significant air quality progress we've made





- The air is getting cleaner every year
- Maryland has already implemented aggressive pollution controls on Maryland power plants, cars and trucks and many other sources
- These controls have been very effective and did what they were supposed to do
 - Maryland is measuring attainment for fine particulates and ozone and SO₂ levels have dropped dramatically since 2004
 - Still have work to do on ozone and SO₂
 - Achieving 25% GHG reduction by 2020 working on 40% by 2030
- New emission control programs are on the way
 - Vehicles, fuels, new power plant controls











Baltimore Progress

- Baltimore has historically had some of the worst air pollution in the East
- In 2008, Baltimore was designated by EPA as having the worst ozone outside of CA and TX
 - In a famous 2005 MIT study Baltimore identified as having the riskiest air to breathe in the East (fine particle driven)

• That has all changed ...

- From 2013 to 2016, Baltimore did not exceed the old ozone standard (75 ppb) First time in 30 years ... close to meeting new 2015 standard (70 ppb)
- EPA has now finalized a "Clean Data Determination" for Baltimore
- Baltimore ... and the rest of the State ... are now meeting the fine particulate standard
 - Fine PM levels continue to go down ... dramatically



 In 2016 only areas of Baltimore, Harford, Kent, Cecil, and Prince George's Counties were above the new ozone threshold of 70 ppb





Tons/year



- The Maryland Clean Cars Program (2007 Legislation)
 - Requires Maryland cars to be the cleanest allowed by federal law
 - Works in tandem with Federal vehicle and fuel standards
 - Includes requirements to push manufacturers to develop and sell electric vehicles (EVs)
- 2017 Clean Cars Act Extends and increases incentives for buying EVs and EV infrastructure
- Tier 3 vehicle and fuel standards
- Diesel initiatives VW and DERA





Vehicle Technology

- Emissions reduction and emissions testing technologies have made dramatic progress over the last 15 years
- 2017 vehicles are over 90% cleaner than 1990 vehicles
- Computerized OBD emissions testing systems have also revolutionized the way vehicle inspection and maintenance programs work
- Each year, vehicles get cleaner and more reliable





- 1. New vehicles will now have until year 3 to get tested
 - Was ... "after 2 years"
- 2. Pre-1996 light duty vehicles will now be exempt
 - First step in phase out of idle test
- 3. That's it





Year 3 Extension Regulation Language

11.14.08.05 B(4)(b) ... for a vehicle of the current or preceding model year that has not been previously titled or registered in any jurisdiction and for which the ownership document is a manufacturer's certificate of origin, the Administration shall assign a date of scheduled inspection which is at least [24] 36 months after the model year of the vehicle.





What About Other States?

Year After Which New Vehicles are Tested	Count of States	States
1	10	LA, ME, MA, MO, NH, NV, PA, TN, TX, VT
2	4	MD, NY, RI, UT
3	4	DC, GA, NM, WI
4	7	CT, IL, IN, NC, OH, OR*, VA
5	4	AZ, DE, ID*, NJ
6	1	СА
7	2	CO, WA
Average is 3 years (4 years for centralized programs)	Total = 32	* Program not federally mandated



- Exemption of pre-1996 model year cars and light trucks
 - Built prior to OBD computer controls
 - Over twenty years old and rapidly retiring from the vehicle population
- Heavy duty, commercial trucks will continue to be idle tested
 - Heavy duty vehicles are making transition to OBD compliance
 - Eventually idle test will be completely phased out





Idle Test Phase Out Regulation Language

- 11.14.08.04 Exemptions.
- A. (text unchanged)
- B. Exempt vehicles include the following vehicles:
- (1) (15) (text unchanged)
- (16) Of a model year earlier than 1977; [or]
- (17) Of a gross vehicle weight of 8,500 pounds or less and model year earlier than 1996; or

[(17)] (18) A military vehicle owned by the federal government and used for tactical, combat, or relief operations, or for training for these operations.



- Each year, about 209,000 motorists will not need to have their vehicle tested because of the year 3 extension
- About 24,000 motorists with pre-1996 light duty vehicles will also no longer need to have their vehicle tested
- \$2.25 Million cost savings to motorists in 2018





Emissions

- Year 3 extension
 - 0.01 tons per day (tpd) NOx increase
 - 0.02 tpd VOC increase
- Idle test phase out
 - No effect on NOx
 - 0.93 tpd VOC increase







To put those numbers into context ...

- The Tier 3 Low Sulfur Fuel program is expected to achieve 14 tpd of NOx reductions starting in 2017
- The MD 2015 power plant rule approved by AQCAC is generating at least 9 tpd NOx reduction
- Maryland's November 2016 "Section 126 Petition" could reduce NOx emissions from 36 power plants in 5 upwind states (identified by EPA as significant contributors to Maryland) by about 300 tpd (not a typo!)
- Recent Maryland rule for consumer products and paints is projected to achieve an approximate 8 tpd of VOC reductions starting in 2018







Working With EPA

- EPA encourages states to modify their programs as air quality progress allows
 - Take advantage of better technology and move toward an OBD-only program
- States have authority to make these changes so long as federal performance standards for the emissions inspection program continue to be met
 - MDE is working with EPA to ensure compliance







Additional Customer Service Enhancements by 2020

- MDE will be working with MDOT and MVA on additional customer service enhancements to VEIP over the next few years
- Expect major technology improvements in the near future
 - Remote OBD is an exciting new technology that appears to be emerging as we speak





What is Remote OBD?

- Motorist option that allows VEIP inspections to be conducted without visiting a VEIP station or kiosk
 - Will always be a voluntary option because of "Big Brother" issues
- Test data is collected by a plug in device or factory-fitted system (e.g., OnStar) and sent over a wireless network
- Technology is being tested in Oregon
 - Will provide lessons for Maryland



QUESTIONS