

GSA Federal Supply Service

February 23, 2007

Dear GSA Fleet Customer,

In 2007 you will find that significant changes are being made to diesel engines. This model year diesel engines will be equipped with advanced emissions control devices that require ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD). There are primarily two types of low sulfur diesel now available at the pumps, low sulfur diesel, labeled as LSD or S500 (500 parts per million), and ultra low sulfur diesel, labeled as ULSD or S15 (15 parts per million). GSA, in preparation for the new 2007 emissions compliant diesel vehicles, has contacted the manufacturers regarding alternative fuel usage in their vehicles. Their responses are summarized below. The full text of their responses may be found on our website at http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/104135.

The following is guidance provided to our GSA Fleet customers based on information received from the manufacturers:

- 1. 2006 and prior vehicles can operate on ULSD (S15) or LSD (S500).
- 2. 2007 emission compliant vehicles should only operate on ULSD (S15). Even as little as one tank of incorrect fuel can cause damage to the engine, fuel system, and/or catalytic converter.
- 3. Fuel additives are not recommended by the manufacturers for 2007 emission compliant vehicles.
- 4. Most OEMs support B5 and lower blends, provided they are made with biodiesel meeting ASTM D 6751, the existing ASTM standard for pure biodiesel (B100). A few engine companies have indicated that the use of blends up to B20 will not void their parts and workmanship warranties.
- 5. Vehicle manufacturers do not support the use of JP8 in 2007 emission compliant vehicles.

GSA Fleet supports your efforts to meet government mandates through the use of alternative fuels such as B20. However, the manufacturers may not honor warranty repairs that are linked to problems caused by the use of JP8, fuel additives, or fuels containing greater than 5% Biodiesel. If you opt to utilize these fuels and the vendor refuses to honor the vehicle warranty, GSA Fleet will contact the manufacturer and attempt to obtain warranty coverage. If they will not pay, we have no choice but to bill

your agency for the cost of those repairs. We hope that this is not necessary and support your efforts to reduce our reliance on foreign oil. If you choose to use Biodiesel in any blend, we suggest you use fuel companies certified under the voluntary BQ9000 quality program.

We appreciate your business, and thank you for choosing GSA Fleet. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please call George Schaubhut at 703 605-2949.

Sincerely,

William F. Webster

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