UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

333 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001-2866
Phone: 202-216-7000 | Facsimile: 202-219-8530

Case Caption: Environmental Defense Fund et

Petitioner

v.

Case Number: 18-1190

Environmental Protection Agenc

Respondent

PETITION FOR REVIEW OF AN AGENCY, BOARD, COMMISSION, OR OFFICER

Notice is hereby given this the 17th day of July 20 18 that petitioner(s) Environmental Defense Fund et al. hereby petitions the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit for review of the order of the respondent(s) Environmental Protection Agency entered the 6th day of July 20 18 .

Attorney for Petitioner(s)/Pro Se Party,

Matthew Littleton
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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

July 6, 2018

OFFICE OF
ENFORCEMENT AND
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Conditional No Action Assurance Regarding Small Manufacturers of Glider Vehicles

FROM: Susan Parker Bodine
Assistant Administrator
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

TO: Bill Wehrum
Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation

Pursuant to your attached request of July 6, 2018, I am today providing a "no action assurance" relating to: (1) those small manufacturers to which 40 C.F.R. § 1037.150(t) applies that either are manufacturing or that have manufactured glider vehicles in calendar year 2018 (Small Manufacturers); and (2) to those companies to which 40 C.F.R. § 1037.150(t)(1)(vii) applies that sell glider kits to such Small Manufacturers (Suppliers).

As noted in your memorandum, in conjunction with EPA's having promulgated in 2016 the final rule entitled Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Engines and Vehicles—Phase 2, *see* 81 Fed. Reg. 73,478 (Oct. 25, 2016) (the HD Phase 2 Rule), the Agency specified that glider vehicles were "new motor vehicles" (and glider vehicle engines to be "new motor vehicle engines") within the meaning of 42 U.S.C. § 7550(3). Effective January 1, 2017, Small Manufacturers were permitted to manufacture glider vehicles in 2017 in the amount of the greatest number produced in any one year during the period of 2010–2014 without having to meet the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 1037.635 (Interim Allowance). After this transitional period, beginning on January 1, 2018, small manufacturers of glider vehicles have been precluded from manufacturing more than 300 glider vehicles (or fewer, if a particular manufacturer's highest annual production volume between 2010 and 2014 had been below 300 vehicles), unless they use engines that comply with the emission standards applicable to the model year in which the glider vehicle is manufactured. On November 16, 2017, EPA published a notice of proposed rulemaking, proposing to repeal the emissions standards and other requirements of the HD Phase 2 Rule as they apply to glider vehicles, glider engines, and glider kits. *See* 82 Fed. Reg. 53,442 (Nov. 16, 2017) (November 16 NPRM).

We understand that after taking into consideration the public comments received, and following further engagement with stakeholders and other interested entities, the Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) has determined that additional evaluation of several matters is required before it can take final action on the November 16 NPRM. Consequently, OAR now recognizes that finalizing the November 16 NPRM will require more time than it had previously anticipated. In the meantime, Small Manufacturers who, in reliance on the November 16 NPRM, have reached their calendar year 2018 annual allocation under the HD Phase 2 Rule must cease production for the remainder of calendar year 2018 of additional glider vehicles, resulting in the loss of jobs and threatening the viability of these Small Manufacturers.

As noted in your memorandum, OAR now intends to move as expeditiously as possible to undertake rulemaking in which it will consider extending the compliance date applicable to Small Manufacturers to December 31, 2019.

Consistent with the intent and purpose of OAR's planned course of action, this no action assurance provides that EPA will exercise its enforcement discretion with respect to the applicability of 40 C.F.R. § 1037.635 to Small Manufacturers that in 2018 and 2019 produce for each of those two years up to the level of their Interim Allowances as was available to them in calendar year 2017 under 40 C.F.R. § 1037.150(t)(3). This no action assurance further provides that EPA will exercise its enforcement discretion with respect to Suppliers that sell glider kits to those Small Manufacturers to which this no action assurance applies. This no action assurance will remain in effect until the earlier of: (1) 11:59 p.m. (EDT), July 6, 2019; or (2) the effective date of a final rule extending the compliance date applicable to small manufacturers of glider vehicles.

The issuance of this no action assurance is in the public interest to avoid profound disruptions to small businesses while EPA completes its reconsideration of the HD Phase 2 Rule. The EPA reserves its right to revoke or modify this no action assurance.

If you have further questions regarding this matter, please contact Rosemarie Kelley of my staff at (202) 564–4014, or kelley.rosemarie@epa.gov.

Attachment

cc: Byron Bunker, OAR, OTAQ
Rosemarie Kelley, OECA, OCE
Phillip Brooks, OECA, OCE, AED

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Enforcement Discretion Regarding Companies that Are Producing or that Have Produced Glider Vehicles in Calendar Year 2018

FROM: Bill Wehrum
Assistant Administrator
Office of Air and Radiation

7-6-18

TO: Susan Parker Bodine
Assistant Administrator
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

The Office of Air and Radiation (OAR) requests that the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) exercise enforcement discretion (No Action Assurance) with respect to both those small manufacturers to which 40 C.F.R. § 1037.150(t) applies that either are manufacturing or that have manufactured glider vehicles in calendar year 2018 (Small Manufacturers), and to those companies to which 40 C.F.R. § 1037.150(t)(1)(vii) applies that sell glider kits to such small manufacturers (Suppliers). Specifically, as a bridge to a rulemaking in which we will consider extending the deadline for Small Manufacturers to comply with 40 C.F.R. § 1037.635, OAR requests that OECA provide assurance that it will exercise enforcement discretion for up to one year with respect to the applicability to Small Manufacturers and their Suppliers of 40 C.F.R. §1037.635. Further, OAR requests that OECA provide assurance that it will not take enforcement action against those Suppliers that elect to sell glider kits to those Small Manufacturers of glider vehicles to which this No Action Assurance applies.

In conjunction with EPA's having promulgated in 2016 the final rule entitled Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Engines and Vehicles–Phase 2, 81 Fed. Reg. 73,478 (Oct. 25, 2016) (the HD Phase 2 Rule), the Agency clarified that glider vehicles were "new motor vehicles" (and glider vehicle engines to be "new motor vehicle engines") within the meaning of 42 U.S.C. § 7550(3). EPA in the HD Phase 2 Rule also stated that glider kits constituted "incomplete motor vehicles." Effective January 1, 2017, Small Manufacturers were permitted to manufacture glider vehicles in 2017 in the amount of the greatest number produced in any one year during the period 2010-2014 without meeting the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 1037.635 (Interim Allowance). After this transitional period, beginning on January 1, 2018, small manufacturers of glider vehicles have been precluded from manufacturing more than 300 glider vehicles (or fewer, if a particular manufacturer's highest annual production volume from between 2010 and 2014 had been below 300 vehicles), unless they use engines that comply with the emission standards applicable to the model year in which the glider vehicle is manufactured.

On November 16, 2017, EPA published in the *Federal Register* a notice of proposed rulemaking, proposing to repeal the emissions standards and other requirements of the HD Phase 2 Rule as they apply to glider vehicles, glider engines, and glider kits. 82 Fed. Reg. 53,442 (Nov. 16, 2017) (November 16 NPRM). In the November 16 NPRM, EPA proposed an interpretation of the Clean Air Act (CAA) under which glider vehicles would be found not to constitute "new motor

vehicles" within the meaning of CAA section 216(3), glider engines would be found not to constitute "new motor vehicle engines" within the meaning of CAA section 216(3), and glider kits would not be treated as "incomplete" new motor vehicles. Under this proposed interpretation, EPA would lack authority to regulate glider vehicles, glider engines, and glider kits under CAA section 202(a)(1). EPA also sought comment on whether, were it not to promulgate this proposed interpretation of the CAA, the Agency should increase the interim provision's allocation available to small manufacturers above the current applicable limits (*i.e.*, at most, 300 glider vehicles per year). 82 Fed. Reg. 53,447. Further, EPA solicited comment on whether the compliance date for glider vehicles and glider kits set forth at 40 C.F.R. § 1037.635 should be extended. *Id.*

After taking into consideration the public comments received, and following further engagement with stakeholders and other interested entities, OAR has determined that additional evaluation of a number of matters is required before it can take final action on the November 16 NPRM. As a consequence, OAR now recognizes that finalizing the November 16 NPRM will require more time than we had previously anticipated.

OAR intends to complete this rulemaking as expeditiously as possible under these circumstances, consistent with the Agency's responsibility to ensure that whatever final action it may take conforms with the Clean Air Act and is based on reasoned decision making. In the meantime, while the emissions standards and other requirements of the 2016 Rule applicable to glider vehicles became effective on January 1, 2017, and the Interim Allowance for calendar year 2017 ceased to apply as of January 1, 2018. As a consequence, Small Manufacturers who, in reliance on the November 16 NPRM, have reached their calendar year 2018 interim annual allocation under the HD Phase 2 Rule must cease production for the remainder of 2018, resulting in the loss of jobs and threatening the viability of these Small Manufacturers.

In light of these circumstances, OAR now intends to move as expeditiously as possible to undertake rulemaking to consider extending the compliance date applicable to Small Manufacturers until December 31, 2019. Concurrently, we intend to continue to work towards expeditiously completing a final rule. OAR requests a No Action Assurance in order to preserve the status quo as it was at the time of the November 16 NPRM until such time as we are able to take final action on extending the applicable compliance date. Specifically, OAR requests that OECA exercise its enforcement discretion with respect to Small Manufacturers who in 2018 and 2019 produce for each of those two years up to the level of their Interim Allowance as was available to them in 2017 under 40 C.F.R. § 1037.150(t)(3). OAR requests that OECA leave this No Action Assurance in place for one year from the date of issuance, or until such time as EPA takes final action to extend the compliance date, whichever comes sooner.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this request.

ORAL ARGUMENT NOT YET SCHEDULED

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

ENVIROMENTAL DEFENSE FUND, CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, and SIERRA CLUB,	
Petitioners,	No. 18-____
v.	
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,	
Respondent.	

RULE 26.1 DISCLOSURE STATEMENT OF PETITIONERS

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 26.1 and Circuit Rule 26.1, Petitioners Environmental Defense Fund, Center for Biological Diversity, and Sierra Club make the following disclosures:

Environmental Defense Fund

Parent Corporations: None.

Publicly Held Company that Owns 10% or More of Party's Stock: None.

Party's General Nature and Purpose: Environmental Defense Fund, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, is a national nonprofit organization that links science, economics, and law to create innovative, equitable, and cost-effective solutions to society's most urgent environmental problems.

Center for Biological Diversity

Parent Corporations: None.

Publicly Held Company that Owns 10% or More of Party's Stock: None.

Party's General Nature and Purpose: The Center for Biological Diversity is a non-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of California that works through science, law, and advocacy to secure a future for all species, great and small, hovering on the brink of extinction, with a focus on protecting the lands, waters, and climate that species need to survive.

Sierra Club

Parent Corporations: None.

Publicly Held Company that Owns 10% or More of Party's Stock: None.

Party's General Nature and Purpose: Sierra Club, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, is a national non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the environment.

DATED: July 17, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ *Matthew Littleton*

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