



New York City Fire Department
Interim Guidance for COVID-19 Response

Mobile Fueling (Diesel)
Emergency Modification (Variance)

April 9, 2020

Mobile Fueling (Diesel)

The Bureau of Fire Prevention hereby issues an emergency modification (variance) authorizing government agencies and other organizations engaging in emergency operations during the Coronavirus emergency to dispense diesel from a cargo tank truck directly into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles; refrigerated trailers (morgue trailers) or other stationary or trailer-mounted emergency equipment (such as generators and light towers); and on-site diesel fuel storage tanks used in connection with the emergency fueling of such equipment; when such emergency fueling is conducted at off-street locations, such as parking lots.

Notification shall be made to the Fire Department of mobile fueling operations by email to fdny_hazcargo@fdny.nyc.gov. Please indicate the name and business address of the agency or organization conducting the fleet fueling operations, the address and exact location, the days/hours of operation, the fuel supplier, and agency/organization contact information (email and telephone).

Specific questions concerning mobile fueling requirements may be directed to Deputy Chief Inspector Michael Fredericks at (718) 752-0296 or (917) 572-2732 (cell), or Chief Inspector Sandy Camacho at (718) 999-2464.

Mobile fueling operations are subject to unannounced inspections and ongoing surveillance by the Fire Department.

EMERGENCY OFF-STREET MOBILE FUELING (DIESEL) GUIDELINES

1. All dispensing of diesel (only) from a cargo tank truck into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles shall be conducted at a safe off-street location. Fire Department approval must be requested and obtained prior to any fleet fueling on streets or highways.
2. All mobile fueling locations shall be provided with appropriate safety precautions, such as safety cones, warning signs and/or other means to alert/divert the vehicular traffic and pedestrian traffic in the dispensing area.
3. Dispensing operations being conducted at any one time shall be limited to a single cargo tank. The cargo tank hazard lights shall be in operation during dispensing operations.
4. The dispensing nozzle shall be maintained in metal contact with the tank fill connection at all times during dispensing operations.
5. Dispensing shall be conducted at least:
 - a) 10 feet from buildings or property lines,
 - b) 15 feet from combustible material or combustible waste, and
 - c) 25 feet from any source of ignition or approved flammable gas storage area.
6. A catchment basin with a capacity not less than 5 gallons shall be provided under the tank connection of the vehicle being fueled.

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7. Adequate precautions shall be taken to prevent any spills from getting into the public sewer system.
8. Spill-absorbing materials including, but not necessarily limited to, absorbent socks, absorbent pads and absorbent powders, in quantities sufficient to handle at least a 200-gallon spill, shall be provided onsite for immediate use.
9. At least one (1) portable fire extinguisher having a minimum 40 B:C rating shall be provided within 100 feet of each dispensing location.
10. The dispensing area shall be provided with safety cones or other acceptable means that would keep vehicles away from the immediate dispensing area.
11. Dispensing shall be conducted outdoors during periods of least vehicular activity on the premises. If dispensing is conducted during non-daylight hours, it shall be conducted in a well-lighted area.
12. The cargo tank used for dispensing operations shall be of a capacity not exceeding 5,500 gallons.
13. The cargo tank used for dispensing operations shall have been inspected by the Bureau of Fire Prevention and issued a Fire Department permit for transportation and dispensing of diesel fuel.
14. The cargo tank used for dispensing operations shall have a dispensing hose of not greater than 100 feet in length. Such hose should be listed or approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory acceptable to the Fire Department.
15. The cargo tank used for dispensing operations shall have a preset meter set to limit the quantity of fuel dispensed per transaction to 50 gallons. The dispensing flow rate shall not exceed 15 gallons per minute.
16. The cargo tank used for dispensing operations shall have a dispensing nozzle of the automatic-closing type, without a latch-open device, that is listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory acceptable to the Fire Department. The dispensing hose shall also be provided with a breakaway device designed to retain liquid on both sides of the breakaway point.
17. Dispensing shall be conducted by a person holding a Fire Department Certificate of Fitness (S-93). Such Certificate of Fitness holder shall be equipped with a means of communication acceptable to the Department that enables direct reporting of an emergency to 911.

Mobile Fueling (Coronavirus Emergency Guidelines) (4/9/20 final)