

6 NYCRR Part 230: Gasoline Dispensing Sites & Transport Vehicles Testing & Reporting Requirements for Stage II Vapor Recovery Equipment

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New York State's Part 230, Gasoline Dispensing Sites & Transport Vehicles, is designed to reduce the amount of harmful gasoline vapors that are released to the air during the filling of gasoline station storage tanks and individual vehicles. These vapors include carcinogens and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that contribute to the state's air pollution. The state's environmental regulatory authority, the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), administers and enforces Part 230.

One section of Part 230 requires control devices, called "Stage II Vapor Recovery Equipment," at all gasoline stations in the New York City Metropolitan Area^a and Lower Orange County^b that have an annual throughput greater than 120,000 gallons. Stage II equipment must be tested at installation and every 5 years thereafter to ensure that it is working properly.

This factsheet summarizes the testing and reporting requirements for operators of Stage II vapor recovery equipment. Additional technical information is available by calling the Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) at the toll-free number below for free and confidential help. For general information about air emissions requirements, contact the Environmental Ombudsman Unit at the toll-free number below; their assistance is also free and confidential.

Testing Frequency

Operators of Stage II equipment must test the equipment every 5 years. The due dates for 5-year testing vary because Part 230 included a phased implementation schedule for installing Stage II equipment. The phased schedule depended on a facility's location, throughput, and tank size. However, any facility that installed Stage II equipment prior to 1995 is overdue for 5-year testing (unless the facility has already completed it). This would include the stations indicated in Table 1 on the next page.

(over)

^a New York City and Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, and Westchester Counties

^b the towns of Blooming Grove, Chester, Highlands, Monroe, Tuxedo, Warwick, and Woodbury

Need more facts?

For technical assistance and for help with permitting, call the Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) of the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation
(800) 780-7227

For information about regulations, compliance financing assistance, and assistance resolving regulatory difficulties, contact the Environmental Ombudsman Unit of Empire State Development
(800) 782-8369

Both offer free and confidential assistance to small businesses.

The New York State
Small Business
Stationary Source
Technical
and
Environmental
Compliance
Assistance
Program

Table 1. Stations Overdue for Testing

Location	Throughput (gallons)	Stage II Installation Date	5-year Testing Due
NYC Metro Area ^a	≥ 250,000	between January 1970 and May 1995	immediately
Lower Orange County ^b	> 120,000	between November 15, 1990, and October 1994	immediately
Lower Orange County ^b	any	between October 15, 1994, and May 1995	immediately

^a New York City and Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, and Westchester Counties

^b the towns of Blooming Grove, Chester, Highlands, Monroe, Tuxedo, Warwick, and Woodbury

Facilities that installed Stage II equipment in 1995 or later are due for 5-year testing in 2000 or later. This would include the stations in Table 2, below.

Table 2. Stations Due for Testing in 2000 or 2001

Location	Throughput (gallons)	Stage II Installation Date	5-year Testing Due
NYC Metro Area ^a	< 250,000	April 15, 1996	April 15, 2001
Lower Orange County ^{b,c}	> 1,200,000	April 15, 1995	April 15, 2000
Lower Orange County ^{b,c}	> 120,000 but < 1,200,000	April 15, 1996	April 15, 2001

^a New York City and Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, and Westchester Counties

^b the towns of Blooming Grove, Chester, Highlands, Monroe, Tuxedo, Warwick, and Woodbury

^c tank installed before November 16, 1990

Three Types of Tests Required

Part 230 prescribes three types of tests to ensure that the equipment that makes up the Stage II vapor recovery system is in proper working order. The three types of tests are (1) dynamic back pressure, (2) liquid blockage, and (3) leak detection.

1. The dynamic back pressure test is used to determine the pressure drop at prescribed flow rates through the Stage II vapor recovery system, including nozzle, vapor hose, swivels, dispenser piping, and underground piping. Passing this test shows that the system was installed properly.
2. The liquid blockage test is used to detect low points in the piping where an accumulation of liquid may cause blockages and thus restrict the flow of vapors to the collection point.
3. The leak detection test is used to demonstrate that the tank and piping are tight enough to prevent vapor leaks.

Conducting the Tests

In many cases, the contractor who originally installed the Stage II equipment can conduct the required 5-year tests. Owners can also obtain a list of companies able to perform the tests by calling the SBAP's hotline at 1-800-780-7227.

If a facility fails one or more of the required tests, the operator must identify the problem(s) with their equipment, repair it, and redo the test immediately. Only the results of the follow-up test showing compliance are required to be submitted to DEC.

Reporting and Recordkeeping

Within 30 days of the required Stage II tests, the owner and/or operator must submit a notarized report of the test results to DEC. The use of a specific reporting form is not required by Part 230, but the SBAP has developed a cover sheet that testers may use to conveniently record the results of Stage II equipment tests. Testers may also use their own reporting format. The tester must have the test report notarized and provide it to the owner so the owner can send it to DEC.

All reports should be sent to:

Greg LaBarge
DEC Division of Air Resources
Bureau of Stationary Sources
625 Broadway - 2nd Floor
Albany, NY 12233-3254

Recordkeeping is important. Stations must keep a copy of the Stage II test results on-site for five years, until the next test is due and completed. All gasoline stations must also maintain records showing the quantity of gasoline delivered to the site. Owners are required to keep these records at the station for at least two years. DEC may request to review a copy of either report during an inspection.

Daily Visual Inspections of Stage II Equipment

Part 230 also requires facilities with Stage II equipment to conduct daily visual inspections of the hoses, nozzles, boots, and other ancillary equipment to ensure that they are in proper working order. Any equipment not in working order must be removed from service immediately and repaired.