ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–5902–4]

Fuel Economy Retrofit Devices; Announcement of Fuel Economy Retrofit Device Evaluation for Vehicle Exhaust Emission Control Device (VEECD) (Now Known as EVEC™)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of fuel economy retrofit device evaluation.

SUMMARY: This document announces the completion of EPA evaluation of Vehicle Exhaust Emission Control Device (VEECD) under provision of Section 32918 of Title 49 U.S.C. This notice also announces EPA's findings, conclusions, and the availability of the report.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Henry Johnson, Vehicle Programs and Compliance Division, Office of Mobile Sources, Environmental Protection Agency, 2565 Plymouth Rd., Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105, Telephone: (313) 741–7893.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Section 32918 of Title 49 U.S.C. requires that:

(b)(1) ''Upon application of any manufacturer of a retrofit device (or prototype thereof), upon the request of the Federal Trade Commission pursuant to subsection (a), or upon her own motion, the EPA Administrator shall evaluate, in accordance with rules prescribed under subsection (d), any retrofit device to determine whether the retrofit device increases fuel economy and to determine whether the representations (if any) made with respect to such retrofit devices are accurate.''

(c) ''The EPA Administrator shall publish in the **Federal Register** a summary of the results of all tests conducted under this section, together with the EPA Administrator's conclusions as to—

(1) The effect of any retrofit device on fuel economy:

(2) The effect of any such device on emissions of air pollutants: and

(3) Any other information which the Administrator determines to be relevant in evaluating such device.''

EPA published final regulations establishing procedures for conducting evaluations of fuel economy retrofit devices on March 23, 1979 (44 FR 17968). These regulations were later amended May 1, 1984 (49 FR 18486) to explicitly include fuel additives within the definition of a retrofit device and to improve administration. They were also amended May 3, 1984 (49 FR 18837) to clarify that the manufacturer of the device must pay the cost of any EPA testing.

II. Origin of Request for Evaluation, Device Descriptions, and Report Identification

On January 17, 1997, EPA received an application from Hawtal Whiting Environmental Ltd. requesting evaluation of the VEECD as a hydrocarbon (HC) and carbon monoxide (CO) emission reduction device. The VEECD is an air bleed retrofit device which is fitted to the vacuum brake line and acts to optimize the air/fuel mixture during idle and deceleration. The device is intended to be fitted to vehicles produced without any or with earlier technology emission control systems. It is not compatible with newer complex engine management systems or closed loop three-way catalyst systems. It is claimed to significantly reduce HC and CO without substantially increasing CO_2 or NO_X emissions. In addition, incidental city fuel economy enhancement was claimed. The report, ''Emissions and Fuel Economy Effects of Vehicle Emission Control Device'' (Report Number EPA–VPCD–32918–RD–97–1), contains the test data, analysis, conclusions and consists of 52 pages including Appendices.

III. Availability of Evaluation Report

Copies of this report may be obtained from the National Technical Information Service by using the above report number. Address requests to: National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, VA 22161, Telephone (703) 487–4650.

Dated: September 25, 1997.

Richard D. Wilson,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation.

[FR Doc. 97–26182 Filed 10–1–97; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL–5902–9]

Proposed Administrative Settlements Under Section 122(h)(1) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; In Re: Brockton Gas Works I Superfund Site, Brockton MA; Brockton Gas Works II Superfund Site, Brockton, MA; and Taunton Gas/Rogers Ave. Superfund Site, Taunton, MA

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of proposed cost recovery agreements and request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to enter into three separate cost recovery settlement agreements to address claims under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.* This document is being published to inform the public of the proposed settlements and of the opportunity to comment. The settlements are intended to resolve liability under CERCLA of the Bay State Gas Company for costs incurred by EPA in initiating and overseeing removal actions at the following three Superfund Sites: Brockton Gas Works I in Brockton, Massachusetts; Brockton Gas Works II in Brockton, Massachusetts; and Taunton Gas/Rogers Ave. in Taunton, Massachusetts.

DATES: Comments must be provided on or before November 3, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to the Docket Clerk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region I, JFK Federal Building, Mailcode RCH, Boston, Massachusetts 02203, and should refer to: The Agreement for Payment of Response Costs Re: (a) Brockton Gas Works I Superfund Site, Brockton, Massachusetts, U.S. EPA Docket No. CERCLA–I–97–1076; (b) Brockton Gas Works II Superfund Site, Brockton, Massachusetts, U.S. EPA Docket No. CERCLA–I–97–1077; or (c) Taunton Gas/Rogers Ave. Superfund Site, Taunton, Massachusetts, U.S. EPA Docket No. CERCLA–I–97–1078.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tina Hennessy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, J.F.K. Federal Building, Mailcode HBR, Boston, Massachusetts 02203, (617) 573–5701.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Comprehensive