Flex-Fuel and Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles

Issue Date: May 6, 2015

New Information
Effective April 16, 2015, this memo supersedes VIN 2012-32a New Motive Power Code for Flex-Fuel Vehicles.

Existing flex-fuel vehicle (FFV) records that contain an incorrect motive power (MP) code of “G” will be identified and automatically corrected at a later date to reflect the correct MP of “F”.

Hydrogen Fuel Cell (HFC) Vehicles
MP code “R” has been created to identify HFC vehicles and is being added to the motive power table. HFCs are alternative fuel vehicles designed to convert the chemical energy in hydrogen to electricity. HFC vehicles are exempt from all smog check requirements.

**NOTE:** Corrected registration cards and California Certificate of Titles **will not be issued** for this change.

Procedures
**Do not** override a valid MP code of “F” for FFV with MP code “G” or any other MP code.

To correct a FFV vehicle record, follow current procedures in the Errors on Certificate of Title and/or Registration Card section of *Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual*, Chapter 22.

Background
1976 and newer year model flexible-fuel or FFV are subject to the same smog check inspection requirements and exemptions as gasoline-powered vehicles under the smog check program. MP code “F” was previously added to the motive power table to identify FFVs. The correct MP code of “F” for FFVs was generating; however, the system was returning an error and preventing further processing of the application unless the MP code was changed to “G” (gas).

Distribution
Notification that this memo is available online, at **www.dmv.ca.gov** under Publications was made via California DMV’s Automated E-mail Alert System in May 2015.

References
*California Vehicle Code* §§4000.1 and 4000.2
*California Health and Safety Code* §§44011, 44011.1, 44060, and 44060.5
*Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual* Chapter 22
Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

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