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marker requirements in §§ 80.510, 80.511, 80.520, and 80.521 shall be determined based on the level of the applicable component or parameter, using the sampling methodologies specified in § 80.330(b), as applicable, and an approved testing methodology under the provisions of §§ 80.580 through 80.586 for sulfur; § 80.2(w) for cetane index; § 80.2(z) for aromatic content; and § 80.582 for fuel marker. Any evidence or information, including the exclusive use of such evidence or information, may be used to establish the level of the applicable component or parameter in the diesel fuel or additive, or motor oil to be used in diesel fuel, if the evidence or information is relevant to whether that level would have been in compliance with the standard if the regulatory sampling and testing methodology had been correctly performed. Such evidence may be obtained from any source or location and may include, but is not limited to, test results using methods other than the compliance methods in this paragraph (a), business records, and commercial documents.

(b) *Compliance with other requirements.* Determination of compliance with the requirements and prohibitions of this subpart other than the standards described in paragraph (a) of this section and in §§ 80.510, 80.511, 80.520, and 80.521, and determination of liability for any violation of this subpart, may be based on information obtained from any source or location. Such information may include, but is not limited to, business records and commercial documents.

§ 80.612 Who is liable for violations of this subpart?

(a) *Persons liable for violations of prohibited acts.*—(1) *Standard, dye, additives, motor oil, and introduction violations.* (i) Any refiner, importer, distributor, reseller, carrier, retailer, or wholesale purchaser-consumer who owned, leased, operated, controlled or supervised a facility where a violation of § 80.610(a) through (d) occurred, or any other person who violates § 80.610(a) through (d), is deemed liable for the applicable violation.

(ii) Any person who causes another person to violate § 80.610(a) through (d) is liable for a violation of § 80.610(e).

(iii) Any refiner, importer, distributor, reseller, carrier, retailer, or wholesale purchaser-consumer who produced, imported, sold, offered for sale, dispensed, supplied, offered to supply, stored, transported, or caused the transportation or storage of, motor vehicle diesel fuel that violates

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§ 80.610(a), is deemed in violation of § 80.610(e).

(iv) Any person who produced, imported, sold, offered for sale, dispensed, supplied, offered to supply, stored, transported, or caused the transportation or storage of a motor vehicle diesel fuel additive which is used in motor vehicle diesel fuel that is found to violate § 80.610(a), is deemed in violation of § 80.610(e).

(2) *Cause violating motor vehicle diesel fuel or additive to be in the distribution system.* Any refiner, importer, distributor, reseller, carrier, retailer, or wholesale purchaser-consumer or any other person who owned, leased, operated, controlled or supervised a facility from which motor vehicle diesel fuel or additive was released into the motor vehicle diesel fuel or additive distribution system which does not comply with the applicable standards or dye requirements of § 80.520 or § 80.521, is deemed in violation of § 80.610(f).

(3) *Branded refiner/importer liability.* Any refiner or importer whose corporate, trade, or brand name, or whose marketing subsidiary's corporate, trade, or brand name appeared at a facility where a violation of § 80.610(a) occurred, is deemed in violation of § 80.610(a).

(4) *Carrier causation.* In order for a motor vehicle diesel fuel or motor vehicle diesel fuel additive carrier to be liable under paragraph (a)(1)(ii), (iii) or (iv) of this section, as applicable, EPA must demonstrate, by reasonably specific showing by direct or circumstantial evidence, that the carrier caused the violation.

(5) *Parent corporation.* Any parent corporation is liable for any violations of this subpart that are committed by any subsidiary.

(6) *Joint venture.* Each partner to a joint venture is jointly and severally liable for any violation of this subpart that occurs at the joint venture facility or is committed by the joint venture operation.

(b) *Persons liable for failure to comply with other provisions of this subpart.* Any person who:

(1) Fails to comply with the requirements of a provision of this subpart not

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addressed in paragraph (a) of this section is liable for a violation of that provision; or

(2) Causes another person to fail to comply with the requirements of a provision of this subpart not addressed in paragraph (a) of this section, is liable for causing a violation of that provision.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 69 FR 39204, June 29, 2004, § 80.612 was amended by revising paragraph (a), effective Aug. 30, 2004. For the convenience of the user, the revised text is set forth as follows:

§ 80.612 Who is liable for violations of this subpart?

(a) *Persons liable for violations of prohibited acts.* (1) *Standard, dye, marker, additives, used motor oil, heating oil, fuel introduction, and other product requirement violations.* (i) Any refiner, importer, distributor, reseller, carrier, retailer, wholesale purchaser-consumer who owned, leased, operated, controlled or supervised a facility where a violation of any provision of § 80.610(a) through (e) occurred, or any other person who violates any provision of § 80.610(a) through (e), is deemed liable for the applicable violation, except that distributors who receive diesel fuel or distillate from the point where it is taxed, dyed or marked, and retailers and wholesale purchaser-consumers are not deemed liable for any violation of § 80.610(b).

(ii) Any person who causes another person to violate § 80.610(a) through (e) is liable for a violation of § 80.610(f).

(iii) Any refiner, importer, distributor, reseller, carrier, retailer, or wholesale purchaser-consumer who produced, imported, sold, offered for sale, dispensed, supplied, offered to supply, stored, transported, or caused the transportation or storage of, diesel fuel or distillate that violates § 80.610(a), is deemed in violation of § 80.610(f).

(iv) Any person who produced, imported, sold, offered for sale, dispensed, supplied, offered to supply, stored, transported, or caused the transportation or storage of a diesel fuel additive which is used in motor vehicle diesel fuel or NRLM diesel fuel that is found to violate § 80.610(a), is deemed in violation of § 80.610(f).

(2) *Cause violating diesel fuel or additive to be in the distribution system.* Any refiner, importer, distributor, reseller, carrier, retailer, or wholesale purchaser-consumer or any other person who owned, leased, operated, controlled or supervised a facility from which distillate fuel or additive was released into the distribution system which does not comply with the applicable standards, marking or dye requirements of this Subpart I is deemed in violation of § 80.610(g).

(3) *Branded refiner/importer liability.* Any refiner or importer whose corporate, trade, or brand name, or whose marketing subsidiary's corporate, trade, or brand name appeared at a facility where a violation of § 80.610(a) or (b) occurred, is deemed in violation of § 80.610(a) or (b), as applicable.

(4) *Carrier causation.* In order for a distillate fuel or diesel fuel additive carrier to be liable under paragraph (a)(1)(ii), (a)(1)(iii), or (a)(1)(iv) of this section, as applicable, EPA must demonstrate, by reasonably specific showing by direct or circumstantial evidence, that the carrier caused the violation.

(5) *Parent corporation.* Any parent corporation is liable for any violations of this subpart that are committed by any subsidiary.

(6) *Joint venture.* Each partner to a joint venture is jointly and severally liable for any violation of this subpart that occurs at the joint venture facility or is committed by the joint venture operation.

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§ 80.613 What defenses apply to persons deemed liable for a violation of a prohibited act?

(a) *Presumptive liability defenses.* (1) Any person deemed liable for a violation of a prohibition under § 80.612(a)(1)(i) or (iii), (a)(2), or (a)(3), will not be deemed in violation if the person demonstrates:

(i) The violation was not caused by the person or the person's employee or agent;

(ii) Product transfer documents account for fuel or additive found to be in violation and indicate that the violating product was in compliance with the applicable requirements when it was under the party's control;

(iii) The person conducted a quality assurance sampling and testing program, as described in paragraph (d) of this section, except for those parties subject to the provisions of paragraph (a)(1)(iv) or (v) of this section. A carrier may rely on the quality assurance program carried out by another party, including the party who owns the diesel fuel in question, provided that the quality assurance program is carried out properly. Retailers, wholesale purchaser-consumers, and ultimate consumers of diesel fuel are not required to conduct quality assurance programs;

(iv) For refiners and importers of motor vehicle diesel fuel subject to the 15 ppm standard under § 80.520(a)(1), test results which: