§ 490.304 General rule. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, the vehicle acquisition mandate schedule in section 490.302 of this part applies to all light duty motor vehicles newly acquired for use within the United States by a covered person described in section 490.303 of this part.

§ 490.305 Acquisitions satisfying the mandate. The following actions within the model year qualify as acquisitions for the purpose of compliance with the requirements of section 490.302 of this part—

(a) The purchase or lease of an Original Equipment Manufacturer light duty vehicle (regardless of the model year of manufacture), capable of operating on alternative fuels that was not previously under the control of the covered person;

(b) The purchase or lease of an aftermarket converted light duty vehicle (regardless of the model year of manufacture), that was not previously under the control of the covered person; and

(c) The conversion of a newly purchased or leased light duty vehicle to operate on alternative fuels within four months after the vehicle is acquired by a covered person; and

(d) The application of alternative fueled vehicle credits allocated under subpart F of this part.

§ 490.306 Vehicle operation requirements. The alternative fueled vehicles acquired pursuant to section 490.302 of this part shall be operated solely on alternative fuels, except when these vehicles are operating in an area where the appropriate alternative fuel is unavailable.

§ 490.307 Option for Electric Utilities.

(a) A covered person or its affiliate, division, or business unit, whose principal business is generating, transmitting, importing, or selling, at wholesale or retail, electricity has the option of delaying the vehicle acquisition mandate schedule in section 490.302 until January 1, 1998, if the covered person intends to comply with this regulation by acquiring electric motor vehicles.

(b) If a covered person or its affiliate, division, or business unit, whose principal business is generating, transmitting, importing, or selling at wholesale or retail electricity has notified the Department as required by the Act, of its intent to acquire electric motor vehicles, the following percentages of new light duty motor vehicles acquired shall be alternative fueled vehicles for the following time periods:

(1) 30 percent from January 1, 1998 to August 31, 1998.

(2) 50 percent for model year 1999.

(3) 70 percent for model year 2000.

(4) 90 percent for model year 2001 and thereafter.

(c) Any covered person or its affiliate, division, or business unit, that chooses the option provided by this section may apply for an exemption from the vehicle acquisition mandate in accordance with section 490.308 of this regulation.

(d) Any covered person or its affiliate, division, or business unit, that...