§ 490.302 Vehicle acquisition mandate

(a) Except as provided in section 490.304 of this part, of the light duty motor vehicles newly acquired by a covered person described in section 490.303 of this part, the following percentages shall be alternative fueled vehicles for the following model years:

1. 30 percent for model year 1997.
2. 50 percent for model year 1998.
3. 70 percent for model year 1999.
4. 90 percent for model year 2000 and thereafter.

(b) Except as provided in section 490.304 of this part, this acquisition schedule applies to all light duty motor vehicles that a covered person newly acquires for use within the United States.

(c) If, when the mandated acquisition percentage of alternative fuel vehicles is applied to the number of new light duty motor vehicles to be acquired by a covered person subject to this subpart, a number results that requires the acquisition of a partial vehicle, an adjustment will be made to the required acquisition number by rounding down to the next whole number if the fraction is less than one half and by rounding up the number of vehicles to the next whole number if the fraction is equal to or greater than one half.

(d) Only acquisitions satisfying the mandate, as defined by section 490.305, count toward compliance with the acquisition schedule in paragraph (a) of this section.

(e) A covered person that is first subject to the acquisition requirements of this part after model year 1997 shall acquire alternative fueled vehicles in the next model year at the percentage applicable to that model year, according to the schedule in paragraph (a) of this section, unless the covered person is granted an exemption or reduction of the acquisition percentage pursuant to the procedures and criteria in section 490.306.

§ 490.303 Who must comply.

(a) Except as provided by paragraph (b) of this section, a covered person must comply with the requirements of this subpart if that person is—
1. A covered person whose principal business is producing, storing, refining, processing, transporting, distributing, importing or selling at wholesale or retail any alternative fuel other than electricity; or
2. A covered person whose principal business is generating, transmitting, importing, or selling, at wholesale or retail, electricity; or
3. A covered person—
   i. Who produces, imports, or produces and imports in combination, an average of 50,000 barrels per day or more of petroleum; and
   ii. A substantial portion of whose business is producing alternative fuels.

(b) This subpart does not apply to a covered person or affiliate, division, or other business unit of such person whose principal business is—
1. transforming alternative fuels into a product that is not an alternative fuel; or
2. consuming alternative fuels as a feedstock or fuel in the manufacture of a product that is not an alternative fuel.

§ 490.304 Which new light duty motor vehicles are covered.

(a) 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.

(b) Exception. If a covered person has more than one affiliate, division, or other business unit, then section 490.302 of this part only applies to light duty motor vehicles newly acquired by an affiliate, division, or other such business unit which is substantially engaged in the alternative fuels business.

§ 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