

TOWN POLICY NUMBER: #005/2009

REFERENCE:

ADOPTED BY:

SUPERSEDES:

Town Council

None

PREPARED BY:

EFFECTIVE DATE:

Paul Furniss – Director of Engineering & Operations

March 2, 2010

TITLE:

Corporate Anti-Idling Policy

The Town of Rocky Mountain House is committed to leading by example when it comes to environmental sustainability. Reducing emissions produced by municipal vehicles is just one more way we can reduce our impact on the environment and encourage Rocky citizens to do the same. The Corporate Anti-Idling Policy is intended to reduce emissions produced by municipal vehicles, improve air quality, and lessen municipal operation expenses.

Policy Statement(s):

1. Town vehicles are not to be left running when the operator is absent from the vehicle.
2. Town vehicles are not permitted to idle more than 5 minutes unless exempted below.
3. Block heaters (with timers) will be installed when possible as an alternative for vehicles not garaged in heated buildings.

Exemptions:

A. Emergency Services and other Town vehicles:

1. Emergency Services and other Town vehicles may idle at the scene of an emergency where lights and other accessories are needed in order to respond to the situation. This includes vehicles that need to run in order to charge batteries and run lights, etc. for their primary function.

2. Emergency Services and other Town vehicles may idle during a non-emergency response situation in order to perform the job at hand and keep the battery charged (e.g. to power convertors for the use of hand tools).
3. Emergency vehicles which have contents sensitive to extreme heat and cold may be allowed to idle as necessary to maintain adequate internal temperatures.
4. Vehicles with occupied passenger compartments may idle in order to maintain a reasonable compartment temperature of 18° C.
5. Any vehicle that needs to run during service or repair is permitted to idle only for as long as is necessary.
6. Any vehicle that needs to defrost its windshield in order to drive safely is permitted to idle only for as long as it takes to defrost and maintain a clear windshield.

B. Diesel-Powered Vehicles & Equipment:

1. When the outside temperature is at or above –20° C a diesel engine will be permitted to warm up for 5 minutes.
2. When the outside temperature is below –20° C, a diesel engine will not be subject to idling restrictions.
3. When a diesel-powered vehicle has a block heater (with a timer) the above exemptions #1 and 2 will only apply when the vehicle is away from its garage.
4. No idling is allowed if a diesel vehicle is already warmed up and an operator stops the vehicle for a short time (e.g. a coffee break).

Responsibilities:

The Directors of Engineering and Operations; Recreation, Parks and Community Services; Protective Services; and or respective designates are responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the anti-idling policy and procedures for Town vehicles. Each Director within their scope of responsibility will monitor the effectiveness of this program and make recommendations for change as required.

Scope/Application:

This applies to all Emergency Services vehicles, including Regional Fire and Rescue, and Town owned Fleet vehicles.

Definitions:

Idle / Idling: Means the operation of a vehicle or equipment’s engine while the vehicle or equipment is not in motion

Authority/Responsibility to Implement:

The CAO through the Directors of Engineering and Operations; Recreation, Parks and Community Services; and Protective Services.