

**New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Bureau of Mobile Sources
Emission Repair Technician (ERT) Certification Program**

Fuel System Monitor Advisory

Issue Date: August 14, 2019

Topic: Fuel System Monitor

Issue: You may come upon a vehicle readiness issue in which only the fuel system monitor is not ready.

Summary: In vehicles of model year 2010 and older, the fuel system monitor typically runs upon startup. However, beginning with model year 2011, a new California Air Resources Board (CARB) On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) regulation was introduced that requires monitoring of fuel system imbalance. As a result, the OBD system now requires completion of a drive cycle to set the fuel system monitor.

Vehicles Affected: This requirement was phased-in with 25% of the 2011 model year, 50% in 2012, 75% in 2013, and 100% in 2014+.

Reference: The following technical paper which details an algorithm used for calculating cylinder fuel imbalance, correction, and diagnosis can be purchased from the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) International here:

<https://www.sae.org/publications/technical-papers/content/2010-01-0157/>

NJ Inspection/Repair Guidance: Completion of a drive cycle specific to the year, make, and model of the vehicle being repaired should set the fuel system monitor if there are no other underlying conditions. If only the fuel system monitor is not ready, you may want to try the following short generic drive cycle (not vehicle-specific) that DEP has observed to be successful in numerous cases, which is essentially the first hill in the Federal Test Procedure (FTP):

IMPORTANT: While performing any drive cycle, you must obey all traffic laws and drive in a safe manner.

Cold start

Idle in park/neutral for 5 minutes

50 mph for 8 minutes

Slow to a stop and idle in park/neutral for 15 minutes

Exceptions: Not all vehicles with a not ready fuel system monitor will fall under this advisory. For instance, some 2012 Jeep Wranglers and 2012-2014 Jeep Patriot/Compass experience a different issue whereby a software reflash is required before the fuel system monitor will set (advisory e-mailed to ERT community on September 12, 2018).