

ACTR Bus Idling Policy

September 14, 2007 – Approved by ACTR Board of Directors

Policy Statement

To avoid unnecessarily polluting our environment, wasting fuel, and increasing engine wear-and-tear, and to be as consistent as possible to Vermont state law governing school buses and idling (even though ACTR does not operate school buses), ACTR will reduce public transportation bus idling to the greatest extent possible, as follows:

Idling at Schools

ACTR drivers will not idle buses at schools while waiting for children to board or to exit the vehicle and will not start the engine until ready to leave the school area.

Idling at Other Bus Stops

When an ACTR driver expects to idle at any other bus stop in the system for more than three (3) minutes, then the driver will turn off the bus.

Exceptions

ACTR recognizes that there are circumstances that reasonably require the idling of the engine, including periods when it is necessary to operate defrosting, heating, or cooling equipment to ensure the health or safety of the driver or passengers or to operate auxiliary equipment. ACTR expects the driver to use his or her good judgment when circumstances exist to warrant any of the above situations. In all cases, when those circumstances have been corrected, the engine will be shut off again until they exist again or the bus is ready to move.

Other Idling Rules

- Buses should never be left idling unattended under any circumstances.
- During pre-trip inspections, buses should only idle if necessary to operate defrosting, heating, or cooling equipment to ensure the health or safety of the driver or passengers once the vehicle is put into service.
- If a person in a wheelchair needs to be loaded prior to departure and the bus is warm and not idling, please start the bus, load the person to get him/her out of the weather and then turn the bus back off.