

To: All Interested Parties

Date: 07/06/2020

Subject: Public Workshop (Webinar) for Proposed Amendments to Prohibitions on Use of Hydrofluorocarbons in Stationary Refrigeration, Chillers, Aerosols-Propellants, and

Foam End Uses

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff will host a public webinar to discuss proposals for reducing high-global warming potential (GWP) hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) from stationary refrigeration and air conditioning (AC) equipment. These proposals are intended to help achieve HFC reductions as mandated by Senate Bill (SB 1383), and will be incorporated via amendments into the current CARB HFC regulation. In this webinar, CARB staff will present updated draft regulation text and discuss changes that have been made since the previous draft was released in January 2020. The changes include new definitions for end uses previously covered by Senate Bill 1013 (SB1013), prohibitions on high-GWP refrigerants for new stationary ACs and large stationary refrigeration systems, additional requirements for existing retail food facilities, a variance provision, and clarifying edits to the existing text. In addition, staff will also discuss anticipated timelines and next steps.

DATE: July 22, 2020

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. PDT

LOCATION: This is a webinar with remote participation only.

How to Participate

Please register before July 22, 2020, 9:00 a.m. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information to join the webinar either through a computer, digital device or via conference line. The webinar will also feature a chat dialog box for public questions and comments related to the presentation. We encourage your participation in this webinar and will take into consideration all public comments provided at the workshop as we refine the proposed rules.

Prior to the webinar, we will post the updated draft regulatory text, staff presentation and any additional supporting materials on our website.

Background

Short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), such as HFCs, are among the most harmful pollutants as they are powerful climate forcers. While they remain in the atmosphere for a much shorter time than carbon dioxide (CO2), their GWP can be tens, hundreds or even thousands of times greater than CO2. Recognizing the importance of reducing

HFCs, the Legislature enacted SB 1383 in 2016, which requires a 40 percent reduction of HFC emissions below 2013 levels by 2030. HFCs are also recognized in CARB's SLCP Strategy as the fastest growing source of greenhouse gases (GHG) both globally and in California. The SLCP Strategy identifies measures to help CARB meet the emissions reductions targets, which include financial incentives for early adoption of low-GWP refrigeration, an HFC supply phasedown, a sales prohibition of high-GWP refrigerants, and a prohibition on new equipment using high-GWP refrigerants.

In March 2018, the Board approved CARB's proposal to adopt into California state regulations, specific requirements of the partially vacated United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) prohibitions on the use of high-GWP refrigerants in new and retrofit stationary refrigeration equipment and certain HFCs used as blowing agents in foam end uses. The requirements focused on end-use prohibitions from the U.S. EPA's Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Program Rules 20 and 21, which had past or upcoming effective dates. In September 2018, the governor signed into law SB 1013, which adopted all of SNAP Rules 20 and 21 except mobile vehicle air conditioning, and established the Fluorinated Gases Emission Reduction Incentive Program. To provide clarity to the regulatory community, CARB incorporated the SB 1013 statutory provisions into CARB's existing HFC regulation under a provision of the law that allows for statutory changes to be incorporated into regulations without an additional rulemaking (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 1, § 100).

However, additional emissions reductions are still needed. CARB is proposing amendments to the existing HFC regulation to add equipment prohibitions (outlined in the SLCP Strategy) that will have GWP limits for new stationary refrigeration and air conditioning systems. This includes a GWP limit of 150 on new stationary refrigeration systems containing more than 50 pounds of refrigerant in new facilities starting January 1, 2022, company-wide emissions reduction targets for retail food businesses by 2030, and a GWP limit of 750 for new stationary air conditioning systems starting January 1, 2023. Currently, staff are scheduled to present the proposed amendments for a CARB Board Hearing in December 2020.

Contact

If you have guestions regarding this webinar, please email the HFC Reduction Team.

To receive notices of upcoming activities regarding stationary refrigeration and air conditioning regulations and incentives, please subscribe to the mailing list.

Special Accommodations Request

If you require a special accommodation or need this document in an alternate format (i.e. Braille, large print) or another language, please email the HFC Reduction Team as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled event.