

# California Air Resources Board

## Notice of Public Meeting to Consider the Proposed California Clean Fuels for Fleets Certification for the 70 ppb Ozone Standard

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the date and time noted below to consider the adoption of the California Clean Fuels for Fleets Certification for the 70 parts per billion (ppb) Ozone Standard. If adopted, CARB will submit the California Clean Fuels for Fleets Certification for the 70 ppb Ozone Standard to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) as a revision to the California State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Date: January 27, 2022

Time: 9:00 A.M.

This public meeting may continue at 8:30 a.m., on January 28, 2022. Please consult the public agenda, which will be posted ten days before the January 27, 2022 Board Meeting, for important details, including, but not limited to, the day on which this item will be considered and any appropriate direction regarding a possible remote-only Board Meeting. If the meeting is to be held in person – in addition to remote access – it will be held at the California Air Resources Board, Byron Sher Auditorium, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814.

### Background

The federal Clean Air Act (Act) establishes planning requirements for areas that exceed health-based national ambient air quality standards for criteria pollutants including ozone. Areas are designated as nonattainment based on monitored exceedances of these standards. In 2015, U.S. EPA lowered the 8-hour ozone standard from 75 to 70 ppb. Nineteen areas in California were designated nonattainment for this standard. Each nonattainment areas must develop and implement SIP elements specific to their classification which ranges from Marginal to Extreme. Nonattainment areas that are classified as Serious or above and meet a prescribed population threshold must meet the Clean-Fuel Vehicle Program requirement in sections 182(c)(4) and 246 of the Act via a demonstration that they are implementing such program, or a certification that they have opted out of the program with a substitute program.

CARB's low emissions vehicle (LEV) programs are implemented Statewide and far exceed the level of reduction that would be achieved through implementation of the U.S. EPA Clean-Fuel Vehicle Program (U.S. EPA Program). As such, California Serious and above ozone nonattainment areas have provided certification to this effect and opted out of the U.S. EPA

Program since the first California SIP was submitted to U.S. EPA in 1994 and approved in 1999. California has continued to strengthen the requirements for light-duty passenger cars, adopting LEV II in 1998 and LEV III in 2012 as a part of the Advanced Clean Cars Program which also expanded zero-emission vehicle requirements.

Nine areas in California are designated as nonattainment for the 70 ppb 8-hour ozone standard with a Serious or higher classification but only seven of these areas meet the population threshold prescribed in the Act to require implementation of a Clean-Fuel Vehicle Program. The two areas that do not meet the population threshold are Eastern Kern County and the Western part of Nevada County. This leaves seven areas that are subject to the Clean-Fuel Vehicle Program requirement. One of these seven areas, San Diego County, already submitted its certification to U.S. EPA on January 12, 2021, as a part of the 2020 Plan for Attaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone in San Diego County. This action addresses the certification requirement for the remaining six California areas subject to these provisions of the Act.

Specifically, the Clean Fuels for Fleets Certification contains certifications for the following six California ozone nonattainment areas:

- Coachella Valley
- Sacramento Metropolitan Area
- San Joaquin Valley
- South Coast Air Basin
- Ventura County
- Western Mojave Desert

CARB staff recommends that the Board adopt the Clean Fuels for Fleets Certification for the Coachella Valley, Sacramento Metropolitan Area, San Joaquin Valley, South Coast Air Basin, Ventura County, and Western Mojave Desert nonattainment areas, and direct staff to submit the Clean Fuels for Fleets Certification to U.S. EPA as a revision to the California SIP.

## Proposed Action

CARB staff will present a written staff report at the meeting. Copies of the report may be obtained from CARB's website at <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/70ppb-clean-fuels-fleet-certification>, December 17, 2021. Please contact Chris Hopkins, Regulations Coordinator, at [chris.hopkins@arb.ca.gov](mailto:chris.hopkins@arb.ca.gov) or (279) 208-7347 if you need physical copies of the documents.

Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing during the meeting and may provide comments by postal mail or by electronic submittal before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written comments not submitted during the meeting, must be received **no later than Tuesday, January 18, 2022**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail: Clerks' Office, California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

*Electronic submittal:* <http://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>

Please note that under the California Public Records Act (Government Code section 6250 et seq.), your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the public record and can be released to the public upon request.

Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Stephanie Parent, Air Pollution Specialist, South Coast Air Quality Planning Section, at (279) 842-9565 or (designated back-up contact) Ariel Fideldy, Manager, South Coast Air Quality Planning Section, at (279) 208-7347.

## Environmental Analysis

CARB, as the lead agency for the proposed Clean Fuels for Fleets Certification, has concluded that this action is exempt from CEQA, as described in CEQA Guidelines section 15061, because the action is both an Action Taken by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment (as described in CEQA Guidelines section 15308 for "class 8" exemptions); and it is also exempt as described in CEQA Guidelines section 15061 subdivision (b)(3) ("common sense" exemption) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed action may result in a significant adverse impact on the environment. A brief explanation of the basis for reaching this conclusion is included in Chapter 4 of the Staff Report.

## Special Accommodation Request

Consistent with California Government Code section 7296.2, special accommodation or language needs may be provided for any of the following:

- An interpreter to be available at the hearing;
- Documents made available in an alternate format or another language; and
- A disability-related reasonable accommodation.

To request these special accommodations or language needs, please contact the Clerks' Office at [cotb@arb.ca.gov](mailto:cotb@arb.ca.gov) or (916) 322-5594 as soon as possible, but no later than ten business days before the scheduled Board hearing. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- Un intérprete que esté disponible en la audiencia;
- Documentos disponibles en un formato alternativo u otro idioma; y
- Una acomodación razonable relacionados con una incapacidad.

Para solicitar estas comodidades especiales o necesidades de otro idioma, por favor llame a la oficina del Consejo al [cotb@arb.ca.gov](mailto:cotb@arb.ca.gov) o (916) 322-5594 lo más pronto posible, pero no

menos de 10 días de trabajo antes del día programado para la audiencia del Consejo. TTY/TDD/Personas que necesiten este servicio pueden marcar el 711 para el Servicio de Retransmisión de Mensajes de California.

California Air Resources Board



---

Richard W. Corey  
Executive Officer

Date: December 17, 2021

*The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see [CARB's website](http://www.arb.ca.gov) (www.arb.ca.gov).*