

California Air Resources Board

Notice of Public Meeting to Hear the Innovative Clean Transit Program Update and Comprehensive Review on 2023 Program Readiness

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the date and time noted below to hear an informational update on the Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) regulation and its 2023 program readiness assessment.

Date: September 22, 2022

Time: 9:00 A.M.

In-Person Location:

California Air Resources Board
Byron Sher Auditorium
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Remote Option:

Zoom

This public meeting may continue at 8:30 a.m., on September 23, 2022. Please consult the public agenda, which will be posted ten days before the September 22, 2022, Board Meeting, for important details, including, but not limited to, the day on which this item will be considered, how to participate via Zoom, and any appropriate direction regarding a possible remote-only Board Meeting if needed.

Background

In December 2018, the Board adopted the ICT regulation that requires California transit agencies to phase in the purchase of zero-emission buses (ZEBs) with a goal of a full transition to zero-emission technologies by 2040. It is a first-of-its-kind regulation in the United States that sets a statewide goal for public transit agencies to gradually transition to 100 percent ZEB fleets.

Transit agencies have always and will continue to play an important role in benefiting local communities, improving the State's air quality, and mitigating climate change, through deploying the cleanest technologies. To date, more than 50 transit agencies in California have made ZEB purchases. As ZEB technologies advance, a focus on continued

improvements in ZEB performance and reduction in costs, along with continuing innovation in transit agency practices, will further assist a smooth transition.

As directed by Resolution 18-60, staff will provide the Board with an update on the ICT regulation, along with a comprehensive review of the program readiness, before the initiation of ZEB purchase requirements under the ICT regulation. The review will identify the status of ZEB technology to help determine ICT program readiness for 2023; it will also help the State design policies to further advance zero-emission technologies and inform funding strategies related to zero-emission vehicles and infrastructure. CARB has contracted with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and University of California Berkeley to conduct the Comprehensive Review. The Review will focus on standard buses, large transit agencies, and an assessment of meeting the first ICT regulation purchase requirements.

Proposed Action

CARB staff and NREL will present the Comprehensive Review as a written report at the meeting. Copies of the report may be obtained from CARB's website at https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08/ICT-ComprehensiveReview-Phase1_0.pdf, August 26, 2022. Please contact Chris Hopkins, Regulations Coordinator, at 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 September 12, 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 Yachun Chow, Manager, Zero Emission Truck and Bus Section at Yachun.Chow@arb.ca.gov.

Environmental Analysis

CARB's certified regulatory program, which applies to the adoption, approval, amendment, or repeal of standards, rules, regulations, or plans for the protection and enhancement of the State's ambient air quality, has been certified by the California Secretary for Natural Resources under Public Resources Code section 21080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 § 15251(d)). Public agencies with certified regulatory programs are exempt from certain CEQA requirements, including but not limited

to, preparing environmental impact reports, negative declarations, and initial studies. For activities that constitute project approvals, as those terms are used in CEQA, CARB, as a lead agency, prepares a substitute environmental document (referred to as an "Environmental Analysis" or "EA") as part of the Staff Report prepared for a proposed action to comply with CEQA (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 17 §§ 60000-60008).

CARB has reviewed this update and concluded it is not a project under CEQA. CARB is simply presenting to the Board a comprehensive review of program readiness as required by Resolution 18-60. This presentation is purely informational. There are no requirements for action. Therefore, this update has no potential to cause any physical change to the environment (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 § 15378(a)).

Even if this update were a project, it would be exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15061(b)(3)). CEQA Guidelines state "the activity is covered by the commonsense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects, which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA" (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 § 15601(b)(3)). This comprehensive review and directed further review by 2026 are purely informational and contain no requirements for action. Therefore, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the comprehensive review and update may result in significant adverse impact on the environment.

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 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.

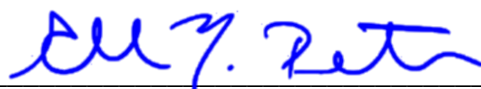
Consecuente con la sección 7296.2 del Código de Gobierno de California, una acomodación especial o necesidades lingüísticas pueden ser suministradas para cualquiera de los siguientes:

- 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 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



Ellen M. Peter
Acting Executive Officer

Date: August 26, 2022

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).