



Air Resources Board



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4
El Monte, California 91731 • www.arb.ca.gov

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

February 21, 2012

Mail-Out #MSC 12-03

TO: ALL HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLE AND ENGINE MANUFACTURERS
ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE HEAVY-DUTY ON-BOARD DIAGNOSTICS (OBD) REGULATIONS
AND MEDIUM-DUTY OBD II REGULATIONS.

The California Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) adopted section 1971.1, title 13, California Code of Regulation (CCR) in 2005, which established malfunction detection and diagnostic system requirements (known as heavy-duty OBD) for 2010 and subsequent model year heavy-duty engines, and adopted section 1971.5, title 13, CCR in 2009, which set up heavy-duty OBD-specific enforcement requirements. The Board updated the heavy-duty OBD regulation at a May 2009 hearing, during which the Board directed the staff to continue to follow manufacturers' progress towards meeting the heavy-duty OBD requirements and to report back should modifications to the requirements be deemed appropriate.

Since then, staff has developed amendments to the heavy-duty OBD regulation that will be brought before the Board at a public hearing scheduled for mid-2012. ARB staff has scheduled a workshop to discuss its current position and proposals and obtain information to further formulate specific proposals prior to the release of the Staff Report and documents relating to the 2012 Board Hearing.

The workshop will be held at the date, time, and location below:

Date: Wednesday, March 28, 2012
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Pacific Time)
Location: Air Resources Board
Annex 4 Auditorium
9528 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731

The proposed amendments include modifications to the OBD requirements for diesel engine monitoring requirements as well as amendments related to alternate-fueled engines and hybrid vehicles. The proposed amendments will also include similar

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 our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

modifications, where necessary, to the medium-duty OBD II requirements (section 1968.2, title 13, CCR). Other proposed amendments include updates to reference documents incorporated in the regulation as well as clarifications and/or modifications to several areas of the regulation, including the in-use monitor performance ratio denominator definitions and the standardization requirements. All of staff's proposed modifications are contained in the draft regulatory language that will be made available prior to the workshop at the website identified below, with proposed additions to the regulation denoted by underline and proposed deletions denoted by ~~strikeout~~. The draft regulatory language will include proposed amendments for the heavy-duty OBD regulation (section 1971.1) and may include proposed amendments for the medium-duty OBD II regulation (section 1968.2) as needed to represent the staff's proposed changes to the diesel monitoring requirements. While draft regulatory language for other changes to the medium-duty OBD II regulation (section 1968.2) and to the extent needed, to the heavy-duty OBD and medium-duty OBD II enforcement regulations (section 1971.5 and 1968.5) will not be available for the workshop, staff plans to propose amendments to these regulations prior to the hearing in order align with the proposed amendments to the heavy-duty OBD regulation where appropriate. Staff encourages industry to review the draft regulation and to comment on any proposed amendment of concern at the workshop in an effort to refine the proposed amendments in a manner that will allow for efficient and effective use of developmental resources. Additionally, any other issue related to technical feasibility may be raised for discussion at the workshop. Any such requests for modifications or changes should be supported by data and/or technical analysis substantiating the need for the change.

The draft regulatory language for proposed changes to the heavy-duty OBD regulation (section 1971.1) and this workshop notice, as well as a workshop report with details and rationale on most of the proposed amendments, will be made available on the ARB website below prior to the workshop:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/obdprog/obdworkshops.htm>

The OBD Program list serve will also be used to provide stakeholders with further information regarding staff's proposals. If you would to sign up for this list serve, please visit the website below:

http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv_ind.php?listname=obdprog

If you would like to make a formal presentation during the workshop, please contact Mr. Michael McCarthy, Manager, at (626) 771-3614, or email at mmccarth@arb.ca.gov.

All Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Manufacturers
All Other Interested Parties
February 21, 2012
Page 3

Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing at the workshop. Comments may also be submitted by postal mail or by electronic submittal before the workshop:

Postal Mail: Ms. Adriane Chiu
Air Resources Board
9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4
El Monte, CA 91731

Electronic Submittal: adchiu@arb.ca.gov

If any party wishes the information submitted to be treated as confidential by ARB staff, it should be clearly marked as "confidential" and should be on pages that are easily detachable from other, non-confidential, information. California guidelines (sections 91000-91002, title 17, CCR, and Health and Safety Code section 39220 (e)) will be followed in the handling of confidential information.

If you have a disability-related accommodation need, please go to <http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm> for assistance, or contact the ADA Coordinator at (916) 323-4916. Teletypewriter/Telecommunications Device for the Deaf/Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

If you are a person who needs assistance in a language other than English, please visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/as/eo/languageaccess.htm> or contact the Bilingual Coordinator at (916) 323-7053.

We welcome and encourage your participation. If you have any questions about the workshop, please contact Mr. Michael McCarthy, Manager, at (626) 771-3614, or by email at mmccarth@arb.ca.gov, or Ms. Adriane Chiu, Air Resources Engineer, at (626) 350-6453, or by e-mail at adchiu@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: See next page

All Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Manufacturers
All Other Interested Parties
February 21, 2012
Page 4

cc: Mr. Michael McCarthy, Manager
Advanced Engineering Section

Ms. Adriane Chiu
Air Resources Engineer
Advanced Engineering Section