June 9, 2011

TO:     All Interested Parties

SUBJECT:  REVISED - SCOPING MEETING FOR ADVANCED CLEAN CARS, CHANGES TO FUEL SPECIFICATIONS AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE LABEL

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) is developing a proposal for more stringent emission requirements for new passenger vehicles called the Advanced Clean Cars rulemaking that will be considered by the Board in late 2011. A half-day workshop to hear your input on items relating to the Advanced Clean Cars rulemaking is scheduled for July 19, 2011, in El Monte, California.

Details of the meeting are as follows:

DATE:    July 19, 2011

TIME:     12:30 p.m.

PLACE:    Air Resources Board
          9528 Telstar Avenue
          El Monte, California 91731

This is the fifth workshop for the Advanced Clean Cars rulemaking. The Advanced Clean Cars rulemaking is a package of regulations that ARB will be proposing this fall that will significantly reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) and smog emissions from California’s cars and trucks, will accelerate the numbers of plug-in hybrids and zero-emission vehicles in California, and will ensure that fueling infrastructure is available to meet the needs of these advanced technology vehicles. Clean and efficient cars and trucks are needed to meet California’s public health and climate change goals.

The first workshop, on March 2, 2010, focused on preliminary elements of the proposed criteria pollutant emission standards and involved a presentation of technical information from several studies that are under evaluation for potential GHG emission reduction. The second workshop, on May 3, 2010, focused on staff’s initial proposal for modifications to the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) regulation. The third workshop, on May 18, 2010, went into more detail in several areas related to criteria pollutant

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.
emissions and GHG emissions. The fourth workshop, on November 16, 2010, provided an update on proposed requirements for criteria emissions, a review of technologies that can reduce vehicle GHG emissions in the 2017-2025 timeframe, a discussion on California’s Environmental Performance label requirements, and proposed modifications to the ZEV program. Material from the previous workshops can be found at http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/levprog/levii/levii.htm.

ARB is preparing a Functional Equivalent Document (FED) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to identify potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed Advanced Clean Cars regulations, and feasible mitigation for such impacts. The FED will focus on the potential environmental impacts associated with compliance responses and will include a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed regulations, as required under CEQA. This workshop will serve as the scoping meeting for the environmental document.

Also, ARB staff will present their proposal for the adoption of the new Federal Fuel Economy and Environmental Label in place of the California’s Environmental Performance Label.

Finally, ARB staff is proposing to update specifications for certification fuel for on-road gasoline vehicles. Staff is updating the certification fuel specification to reflect current in-use gasoline. The proposed certification specification will include 10 volume percent ethanol.

If you require special accommodations or language needs, please contact Ms. Adrieann Medina at (626) 459-4405 or amedina@arb.ca.gov, as soon as possible but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

ARB will use the Low Emission Vehicle Program list serve to notify stakeholders of upcoming events. If you wish to sign up for this list serve, please visit: http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv_ind.php?listname=levprog

The workshop will not be webcast but will be available via webinar and audio conference. To access the meeting via Webinar, please register at: https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/880230793.

To participate via audio conference, dial:

Toll free#: 1-888-995-9572 (USA)
Passcode is: 60323
Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing at the workshop. Comments may also be submitted by postal mail before the workshop or by electronic submittal before and during the workshop.

Postal mail: Mr. Paul Hughes  
Air Resources Board  
9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4  
El Monte, California 91731  

Electronic submittal: phughes@arb.ca.gov

Via email during the meeting: ekeddie@arb.ca.gov

We welcome and encourage your participation. For questions about Advanced Clean Cars, please contact Mr. Paul Hughes, Manager, at (626) 575-6977, or by email at phughes@arb.ca.gov. If you have questions regarding the CEQA document, please contact Ms. Jeannie Blakeslee, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 445-8286, or by email at jblakesl@arb.ca.gov. If you have questions regarding the Environmental Performance Label, please contact Ms. Lisa Chiladakis, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 327-2932 or by email at lchilada@arb.ca.gov. If you have questions regarding the fuel specifications, please contact Ms. Renee Littaua, Manager, at (916) 322-6019 or by email at rlittaua@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief  
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: See next page.
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cc: Paul Hughes, Manager
    Low Emission Vehicle Implementation Section

    Jeannie Blakeslee
    Air Pollution Specialist
    Office of Climate Change

    Lisa Chiladakis
    Air Pollution Specialist
    Zero Emission Vehicle Implementation Section

    Renee Littaua, Manager
    Fuels Section