

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SUGGESTED CONTROL MEASURE FOR ARCHITECTURAL COATINGS

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider approval of proposed amendments to the Suggested Control Measure (SCM) for emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOC) from the application of architectural coatings.

DATE: October 25, 2007

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board
Byron Sher Auditorium, Second Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

This item will be considered at a two-day meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., October 25, 2007, and may continue at 8:30 a.m., October 26, 2007. This item may not be considered until October 26, 2007. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least 10 days before October 25, 2007, to determine the day on which this item will be considered.

For individuals with sensory disabilities, this document is available in Braille, large print, audiocassette or computer disk. Please contact ARB's Disability Coordinator at (916) 323-4916 by voice or through the California Relay Services at 711, to place your request for disability services. If you are a person with limited English and would like to request interpreter services, please contact ARB's Bilingual Manager at (916) 323-7053.

Background

Architectural coatings include a wide variety of paints and other coatings that are applied to stationary structures and their appurtenances. The use of architectural coatings in California results in approximately 95 tons per day of VOC emissions, which contribute to the formation of ozone and particulate matter – two of California's most serious air quality problems.

Under California law, the primary authority for controlling emissions from architectural coatings is vested in the local air pollution control districts and air quality management districts ("districts," see Health and Safety Code, Sections 39002, 40000, and 40001). However, ARB often provides guidance and other assistance to the districts, including the development of model rules such as the SCM for architectural coatings. ARB's

authority to do this is provided by sections 39001, 39003, 39500, 39600, 39602, 39605, 40916, and 41500 of the Health and Safety Code.

Widespread regulation of architectural coatings began in 1977, when ARB approved an initial SCM for architectural coatings. A number of districts adopted architectural coatings rules based on the 1977 SCM and subsequent revisions to the SCM in 1985, 1989, and 2000. Currently, 20 of California's 35 districts have adopted architectural coatings rules based on the SCM that was approved by ARB in 2000.

Since 2000, lower VOC coatings have been developed. Many districts need further reductions in VOC emissions to attain health-based air quality standards. Therefore, ARB worked with districts, industry, and other stakeholders to develop the proposed SCM update. During this multi-year effort, ARB staff completed the following activities: (1) conducted two comprehensive surveys of architectural coatings; (2) held regular meetings with districts, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), and industry representatives; (3) evaluated data from durability and performance testing for various coating categories; (4) reviewed the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1113 for architectural coatings and U.S. EPA's national architectural coating rule; (5) performed a technology assessment of all the coating categories in the proposed amended SCM; and (6) analyzed potential environmental and economic impacts. ARB staff also conducted three public workshops and held numerous meetings with individual manufacturers and other interested parties from March 2006 through August 2007.

The Board's approval of the proposed amendments to the SCM will not impose binding requirements on any person. Binding requirements will only be imposed if a district adopts the amended SCM as a district rule. Upon adoption, a district rule would then apply to affected persons within the jurisdiction of the district. In addition, the Board's approval of the proposed amendments to the SCM will not impose an obligation on any district to subsequently adopt the amended SCM. It will be up to each district to decide if adoption of the amended SCM as a district rule is needed to attain the state and federal ambient air quality standards within the district. Current architectural coating rules in the districts will remain in effect, unchanged, until districts formally adopt the amended SCM.

Description of the Proposed Amendments to the Architectural Coatings SCM

The proposed amended SCM specifies VOC limits for 42 categories of architectural coatings. These categories include general use paints, such as flat and nonflat (glossy coatings), and a wide variety of specialty coatings, such as industrial maintenance coatings, wood coatings, floor coatings, roof coatings, rust preventative coatings, stains, and primers. The proposed amended SCM would lower VOC limits for 19 of the 42 architectural coating categories. The proposed effective date for the VOC limits is January 1, 2010, for all categories except rust preventative coatings and specialty primers, sealers, and undercoaters. The proposed effective date for the VOC limits for

rust preventative coatings and specialty primers, sealers, and undercoaters is January 1, 2012.

The proposed amended SCM would reduce VOC emissions from architectural coatings by 15 tons per day statewide (excluding the SCAQMD, which has already adopted lower VOC limits in its Rule 1113).

The SCM also contains definitions, test methods, and requirements that apply to painting practices, thinning, container labeling, and reporting. For coatings that are manufactured before the applicable effective dates, the proposed amended SCM contains a three year "sell through" provision. Proposed amendments to the SCM also include miscellaneous changes to improve clarity, flexibility, and enforceability.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS AND AGENCY CONTACT PERSONS

The ARB staff has prepared a Staff Report on the proposed amended SCM. The Staff Report contains the full text of the proposed amended SCM, a description of the technical assessment that was conducted to develop the proposed amended SCM, and an analysis of the potential environmental and economic impacts.

Copies of the Staff Report and meeting notice may be obtained from the ARB's Public Information Office, 1001 I Street, Visitors and Environmental Services Center, 1st Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 322-2990, October 15, 2007. The Staff Report, including the text of the proposed amended SCM, and this meeting notice may also be accessed on the ARB internet site at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/coatings/arch/docs.htm>.

Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Mr. Jim Nyarady, Manager, Strategy Evaluation Section, Stationary Source Division, by phone at (916) 322-8273 or by email at jnyarady@arb.ca.gov.

SUBMITTAL OF COMMENTS

At the October 25, 2007, public meeting, staff will recommend that the Board approve the proposed amended SCM. Interested members of the public may present comments relating to this matter orally or in writing at the meeting, and in writing or by email before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written submissions not physically submitted at the public meeting must be received **no later than 12:00 noon, October 24, 2007**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail: Clerk of the Board, Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

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

Facsimile submittal: (916) 322-3928

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. Additionally, this information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and any other search engines.

The Board requests, but does not require, that 30 copies of any written statement be submitted and that all written statements be filed at least 10 days prior to the public meeting so that ARB staff and Board Members have time to fully consider each comment. The Board encourages members of the public to bring to the attention of staff in advance of the public meeting any suggestions for modification of the proposed amended SCM.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

/s/

Thomas Cackette
Acting Executive Officer

Date: September 25, 2007