

## CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER A REPORT ON STAFF'S RECOMMENDED AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR THE 2008 FEDERAL LEAD STANDARD

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) will present recommended area designations for the revised federal lead standard of 0.15 micrograms per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ). ARB will submit these recommendations to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) by October 15, 2009.

DATE: September 24, 2009

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Auditorium  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, California 91765

This item will be considered at a two-day meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., September 24, and may continue at 8:30 a.m., September 25, 2009. This item is expected to be considered on September 24, 2009. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least 10 days before September 24, 2009, to determine the day on which this item will be considered.

If you require special accommodations or language needs, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (916) 322-5594 or by facsimile at (916) 322-3928 as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled Board hearing. TTY/TDD Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

### **BACKGROUND**

The federal Clean Air Act requires U.S. EPA to set health-based National Ambient Air Quality Standards. On October 15, 2008, U.S. EPA lowered the lead standard from  $1.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  to  $0.15 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . Compliance with the new standard is based on a rolling three-month average concentration measured as lead in total suspended particulate, or TSP. Under the Clean Air Act, ARB is required to submit recommendations for area designations and appropriate boundaries to U.S. EPA by October 15, 2009. The purpose of this report is to summarize the staff's area designation recommendations, based on currently available monitoring data. Staff will also discuss the implementation of new lead monitoring requirements.

U.S. EPA has one year to review the recommendations, promulgating final area designations by October 15, 2010. State implementation plans are due 18 months after U.S. EPA makes the final designations. An area must attain the standard within five years of the nonattainment designation.

Although states are required to make area designation recommendations by October 2009, U.S. EPA recognizes that the current lead sampling network is not adequate in most areas, including California. As a result, U.S. EPA may take an additional two years to designate areas with insufficient data. During this time, new lead samplers will be deployed to collect the data needed to identify designations for many areas with no or limited monitoring data.

### **PROPOSED ACTION**

All areas of California were in compliance of the previous ambient lead standard of  $1.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . Because concentrations have been well below that standard for more than a decade, the sampling network was reduced and the number of sampling sites currently operating is very limited.

Based on ARB staff's technical analysis and current ambient lead data for 2006 through 2008, ARB staff recommendations for lead designations are:

- The Los Angeles County portion of the South Coast Air Basin as nonattainment;
- Imperial County as attainment;
- All other areas of California as unclassified because they do not have sufficient data.

### **AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS**

ARB staff will prepare a written staff report prior to the meeting. Copies of the staff report may be obtained from the Board's Public Information Office, 1001 I Street, First Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, California 95814, (916) 322-2990. This notice and the staff report are also accessible on ARB's website at: [www.arb.ca.gov/desig/desig.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/desig/desig.htm).

### **SUBMITTAL OF COMMENTS**

Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing at the meeting and may also be submitted by postal mail or electronic submittal before the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written comments not physically submitted at the meeting must be received no later than 12:00 noon, September 23, 2009, 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>

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 20 copies of any written statement be submitted and that written and e-mail statements be filed prior to the meeting so that ARB staff and Board members have time to fully consider each comment. Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Ms. Gayle Sweigert, Manager of the Air Quality Analysis Section, at (916) 322-6923, or Marcella Nystrom, Staff Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 323-8543.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

/s/

James N. Goldstene  
Executive Officer

Date: September 8, 2009

*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 at [www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov)*