CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A STATUS REPORT ON THE STATE STRATEGY FOR CALIFORNIA’S 2007 STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A PROPOSED REVISION TO THE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN REFLECTING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2007 STATE STRATEGY

The Air Resources Board (ARB or the Board) will conduct a public hearing at the time and place noted below to hear a report on the status of ARB’s efforts to implement the 2007 State Strategy and consider adoption of a technical revision to the 2007 State Implementation Plan (SIP).

DATE:     April 23, 2009
TIME:     9:00 a.m.
PLACE:    California Environmental Protection Agency
          Air Resources Board
          Byron Sher Auditorium
          1001 I Street
          Sacramento, California  95814

This item will be considered at a two-day hearing of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., April 23, 2009, and may continue at 8:30 a.m., on April 24, 2009. This item may not be considered until April 24, 2009. Please consult the agenda for the hearing, which will be available at least ten days before April 23, 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 Fax at (916) 322-3928 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.

Background

ARB and local air districts are responsible for developing clean air plans to demonstrate how and when California will attain federal 8-hour ozone and PM2.5 standards established under the federal Clean Air Act. For the areas within California that have not attained federal air quality standards, ARB works with local air districts to develop and implement State and local attainment plans.

In September 2007, ARB adopted the 2007 State Strategy for the California SIP. In doing so, the Board set out how the State will achieve the needed emission reductions
from cars, trucks, locomotives, consumer products, and other sources to meet health-based federal air quality standards for ozone and fine particulates (PM2.5). Air districts in each nonattainment area incorporate the 2007 State Strategy into an attainment demonstration that includes a commitment to achieve the emission reductions necessary to achieve federal 8-hour ozone and PM2.5 standards by the applicable attainment date.

ARB staff has prepared a status report that documents the progress made in implementing the 2007 State Strategy in terms of actions taken by ARB and emission reductions achieved since the 2007 State Strategy was adopted. In 2007 and 2008, ARB adopted 13 pollution-reducing regulations to implement the SIP. Eleven of these regulations implement ten of the new measures identified in the 2007 State Strategy. Two additional measures were adopted that were not envisioned in the 2007 State Strategy but will help California meet the commitments in the 2007 State Strategy.

The most significant of the rules adopted is the cleaner in-use heavy-duty diesel truck rule adopted in December 2008. This rule represents a multi-year effort and is ARB’s most comprehensive undertaking yet to turn over the legacy fleet of engines and replace them with the cleanest technology available.

**Proposed Action**

Staff will propose for Board consideration a revision to the SIP reflecting implementation of the 2007 State Strategy since it was adopted. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has requested this revision to aid U.S. EPA’s approval of the SIP. The proposed revision accounts for emission reductions from the regulations adopted in 2007 and 2008, clarifies ARB’s legal commitments in light of U.S. EPA’s approval criteria, and clarifies the discussion of the long-term strategy for identifying future technologies to achieve the last increment of reductions. The proposed revision does not change the emission reductions of oxides of nitrogen, reactive organic gases, oxides of sulfur and direct PM2.5 that the Board committed to achieve by specific years when it adopted the 2007 State Strategy.

The proposed revision also includes a commitment for emission reductions in the Sacramento area, since its attainment plan will be considered by the Board at its March 2009 hearing when it considers approval of the SIP for the Sacramento area. The reductions in Sacramento from the statewide measures in the 2007 State Strategy had not been quantified at the time the 2007 State Strategy was adopted and so are not reflected in the 2007 State Strategy. For clarity, staff is now proposing to revise the State Strategy to reflect this commitment.

ARB staff will make an oral presentation at the hearing and will present the Proposed SIP Revision for Board action. Copies of the Status Report and Proposed SIP Revision may be obtained from the Board's Public Information Office, 1001 “I” Street, First Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, California, 95814, (916) 322-2990, April 13, 2009. The report may also be obtained from ARB’s Web site at http://www.arb.ca.govplanning/sip/sip.htm.

Interested members of the public may also present comments orally or in writing at the hearing, and in writing or by email before the hearing. To be considered by the Board, written comments submissions not physically submitted at the hearing must be received no later than 12:00 noon, April 22, 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

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 30 copies of any written submission. Also, ARB requests that written and email statements be filed at least ten days prior to the hearing so that ARB staff and Board members have time to fully consider each comment. Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Carol Sutkus, Air Pollution Specialist, (916) 322-1229, or Ravi Ramalingam, Manager of the Northern California SIP Section, (916) 322-2085, 1001 “I” Street, Sacramento, California, 95814.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

/s/
James N. Goldstene
Executive Officer

Date: 3-24-09