

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER A STATUS REPORT ON THE ZERO EMISSION VEHICLE (ZEV) PROGRAM

The Air Resources Board (ARB or the Board) will conduct a public meeting at the time and place noted below to consider a status report on the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Program as directed by the Board at its April 2003 meeting. As part of this review, the Board directed that an independent panel of experts (Panel) be established to report on the status of advanced technologies and the readiness of various technologies for commercialization. The Panel's findings will be presented as part of ARB staff's report to the Board. The Board will not make any changes to the ZEV Program at this time, but could direct the staff to return later this year with proposed changes.

DATE: May 24-25, 2007

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: San Diego Marriott Del Mar
Grand Ballroom
11966 El Camino Real
San Diego, California 92130

The item will be considered at a two-day meeting of the Board, which will commence at 9:00 a.m., May 24, 2007, and adjourn at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will then continue at 8:00 a.m., May 25, 2007. Please note that this item may not be considered until May 25, 2007. Please consult the agenda for the meeting, which will be available at least 10 days before May 24, 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

In September 1990, ARB adopted a low-emission vehicle regulation whose aim has been to drastically reduce pollution from passenger cars and light-duty trucks. As part of the newly created program, the Board included a goal of requiring large automakers to commercialize vehicles with no direct emissions, known as zero emission vehicles or ZEVs, beginning with 1998 model-year vehicles. This ZEV requirement was included to catalyze efforts to commercialize sustainable transportation. The ZEV Program

anticipated the added benefit of prompting automakers to develop extremely clean conventional and alternative fuel and hybrid electric vehicles.

Because of the long-term, technology-forcing nature of the ZEV Program, the Board directed staff to provide regular updates on the progress being made in meeting the requirements. Earlier updates have given the Board the information necessary to amend the ZEV Program to respond to new developments in vehicle technology and to the experiences gained by industry. The May 2007 status report will update the Board on the advances in vehicle technology that have occurred since the Board's consideration of the ZEV Program in 2003.

As part of the regulatory changes made in 2003, the Board directed that an independent expert panel be established to provide a thorough and accurate assessment of the current worldwide status of ZEV technologies and the prospects for technology advancement in both the near- and long-term. Of particular concern were the fuel cell vehicle requirements that begin in 2009 and the extent to which the development and production of advanced technology partial ZEVs have contributed toward commercialization of fuel cell vehicles and whether economies of scale have largely been achieved. The information gathered by the Panel and ARB staff will be used to assist the Board in determining if adjustments to the program are needed later this year.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS AND AGENCY CONTACT PERSON

A summary of the written report updating the Board on the progress of the ZEV Program will be presented by ARB staff at the meeting. A summary of the Panel's written report regarding technology development will be presented by Panel members. Copies of both reports may be obtained from the Board's Public Information Office, Air Resources Board, 1001 I Street, 1st Floor, Environmental Services Center, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 322-2990, prior to the scheduled meeting. The reports will also be available electronically on ARB's website at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/zevprog/zevprog.htm>. Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Tony Andreoni, Manager, ZEV Implementation Section, at (916) 324-6021, or by email tandreon@arb.ca.gov.

SUBMITTAL OF COMMENTS

Interested members of the public may also present comments orally or in writing at the meeting, and in writing or by email before the meeting. Written and oral comments become part of the public record of the meeting. To be considered by the Board, written comments submissions not physically submitted at the meeting must be received **no later than 12:00 noon, May 23, 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 (Govt. 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 meeting so that ARB staff and Board Members have time to fully consider each comment. ARB encourages members of the public to bring to the attention of staff in advance of the meeting any suggestions or comments.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Catherine Witherspoon
Executive Officer

Date: April 23, 2007

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 Web-site at www.arb.ca.gov