REQUEST FOR EARLY EFFECTIVE DATE

Pursuant to Government Code section 11343.4(c), the Air Resources Board (ARB) requests that the amendments to sections 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609 and 2610, of title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR), and the adoption of section 2611 and Appendices C and D, the ARB Voluntary Accelerated Vehicle Retirement (VAVR) regulations, become effective upon filing with the Secretary of State. Good cause for this request exists.

A number of stakeholders such as vehicle dismantlers depend on the VAVR program as a source of income. Others rely on the mobile source emission reduction credits generated in the VAVR program to meet air quality requirements for employee commute trip reduction or credit programs. Over a hundred large corporations in the South Coast Air Quality Management District alone depend on emission reduction credits generated from the VAVR program as an alternative to way to comply with trip reduction requirements. For some, buying emission reduction credits is the only feasible way they have to comply with this law, remain in business and avoid serious penalties. The South Coast Air Quality Management District has a hearing scheduled to amend its current rules to reflect the amendments proposed in the VAVR rulemaking and has requested that the Air Resources Board take all steps necessary to have the amendments take effect as soon as possible so that businesses in the South Coast District can utilize the improved regulations at the earliest practicable time.

The requested early effective date would provide valuable relief to affected enterprises from pressures they face due to outdated regulations. In compliance with statute, the proposed amendments update the VAVR regulations to better reflect the business environment for vehicle scrapping with streamlined vehicle eligibility requirements consistent with the present Bureau of Automotive Repairs vehicle eligibility requirements and increased opportunities to recycle parts from vehicles submitted for scrapping.

The affected public includes vehicle dismantlers, car collectors, people who depend on older, low-cost vehicles for transportation and businesses that must comply with federal trip reduction requirements. These stakeholders generally support the amendments and would benefit from an early effective date. The ARB has engaged in a great deal of public outreach to these stakeholders.

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