



Air Resources Board



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4
El Monte, California 91731 • www.arb.ca.gov

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

February 25, 2013

Mail-Out # MSC 13-03

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOPS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IN-USE
OFF-ROAD MOBILE AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT REGULATION

The California Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) invites you to participate in the second set of public workshops to discuss strategies for reducing emissions from in-use off-road diesel mobile agricultural equipment with engines greater than 25 horsepower (mobile ag regulation) in the San Joaquin Valley. The mobile agricultural equipment category includes in-use self-propelled off-road mobile equipment used in agricultural or forestry operations.

The dates, times and locations are as follows:

<p><u>San Joaquin Valley:</u></p> <p>Date: Thursday, March 14, 2013 Time: 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Location: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) 1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue Fresno, California 93726</p>	<p><u>Alternative locations with live video feed:</u></p> <p>SJVAPCD (Modesto) 4800 Enterprise Way Modesto, California 95356</p> <p>SJVAPCD (Bakersfield) 34946 Flyover Court Bakersfield, California 93308</p>
<p><u>Sacramento: (will also be webcast)</u></p> <p>Date: Friday, March 15, 2013 Time: 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. Location: Cal/EPA Headquarters Building Coastal Hearing Room 1001 I Street Sacramento, California 95814</p>	

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: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

Background

The 2007 San Joaquin Valley 8-Hour Ozone State Implementation Plan (SIP), approved by United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), requires ARB staff to present to the Board in 2013 a regulation for mobile agricultural equipment that moves California towards meeting ambient air quality standards for the San Joaquin Valley by utilizing the cleanest available technologies. Specifically, the approved SIP includes a commitment to achieve emissions reductions of 5-10 tons per day of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) in the San Joaquin Valley by 2017 to accelerate progress toward attainment of the ozone standard. The attainment deadline is 2023.

In addition, a new SIP for the new 8-hour ozone standard for the San Joaquin Valley will be developed in 2014 for submittal to US EPA in 2015. The SIP will address additional reductions needed to attain the new 2015 8-hour ozone standard by the 2032 deadline; likely through strategies that will rely on the availability of the cleanest technologies in mobile agricultural equipment. New SIPs will also be needed for other areas of the State. However, for these other areas, additional actions for mobile agricultural equipment beyond the emissions standards already adopted are not expected to be needed to meet the federal attainment deadlines.

ARB staff is proposing two rulemakings for mobile agricultural equipment. The first would implement the 2007 SIP and the second would be incorporated into the 2015 SIP. The near-term rulemaking, which would be submitted to the Board in late 2013, focuses on fully accounting for the voluntary actions by the agricultural industry to reduce emissions through their participation in incentive funding programs that accelerate the use of the cleanest available technology equipment (primarily Tier 3 off-road engines in mobile agricultural equipment) in the San Joaquin Valley. Agricultural organizations working with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, ARB, United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service, and US EPA, have signed a Statement of Principles that allows for a mechanism to be developed that will provide industry with credit for the investments already made to clean up mobile agricultural equipment. ARB's action makes formal the written agreement already reached among the agencies.

Finally, in conjunction with the 2015 8-hour ozone SIP, staff will continue to work with the agricultural industry to develop a long-term strategy to increase the use of the cleanest technologies as they become available. This strategy would focus on the introduction of the cleanest technologies (primarily Tier 4 final engines) through incentive programs, regulation, or a combination of both to help meet the 75 ppb ozone standard by 2032.

Draft Agenda Topics

- California's air quality goals and the need for emission reductions from the agricultural sector
- Draft survey results from mobile agricultural equipment in California
- Assessment of local, state, and federal financial incentive programs
- Development of a mechanism to ensure local, state, and federal incentive program reductions are SIP creditable
- Availability of cleaner technologies (Tier 4) in mobile agricultural equipment
- Update on stakeholder feedback on staff's proposal
- Next steps

The final agenda and presentation will be made available prior to workshops.

Staff's presentation will be followed by an opportunity for public comment and discussion. We welcome and encourage your participation in this effort.

Webcast Information

The Sacramento meeting will be webcast for those unable to attend in person. The webcast can be accessed on the day of the workshop at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/>. Information on submitting questions or comments will be provided during the webcast for remote participants. Staff's presentation and all associated documents will be posted in advance of the workshop on ARB's website at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ag/agtractor/agtractor.htm>.

Special Accommodations

If you require a special accommodation or need this document in an alternate format (i.e. Braille, large print) or another language, please contact Ms. Lynsay Carmichael at (916) 322-0407 or lcarmich@arb.ca.gov as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

If you did not receive this notice directly and would like to receive notices to stay informed of future regulatory progress, including the release of proposed regulations and workshop notifications, please sign up for the "inuseag" listserve at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv_ind.php?listname=inuseag .

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If you have questions regarding the public workshop, please contact Ms. Lynsay Carmichael, Air Resources Engineer, at (916) 322-0407 or lcarmich@arb.ca.gov .

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, M.S.M.E, P.E.
Chief, Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Ms. Lynsay Carmichael
Air Resources Engineer
Mobile Source Control Division