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Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.
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Gray Davis
Governor

April 5, 2002

Mail-Out # 02-07

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

SUBJECT: REVISED NOTICE – HYBRID-ELECTRIC TEST PROCEDURES AND
TRANSIT BUS FLEET RULE MODIFICATIONS WORKSHOP

This notice is a modification of Mail-Out #MSC 02-06. A second workshop location has been added, and draft modifications to the public transit bus fleet rule will also be presented at the workshop.

At a public hearing held on February 24, 2000, the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) adopted the public transit bus fleet rule and emission standards for new urban buses. At a public hearing held in San Diego on March 21, 2002, staff presented a status update of the public transit bus fleet rule. During this non-regulatory meeting, staff was directed to update the Board on the development of heavy-duty hybrid-electric vehicle (HEV) test procedures. The Board also directed staff to consider changes within the fleet rule addressing the lack of diesel particulate matter (PM) control technology for pre-1994 diesel engines. Because control technologies are available for 1994-2002 diesel engines, the Board further directed staff to accelerate the implementation schedule to obtain the same reductions in diesel PM as adopted in the existing rule. Additionally, staff was directed to examine the impact of allowing transit agencies on the diesel path to switch to the alternative-fuel path.

The purpose of this workshop is to present staff's initial concepts of a regulatory proposal designed to certify heavy-duty HEVs, and to present an overview of staff's initial draft modifications for the transit bus fleet rule. Topics planned for discussion of the transit bus fleet rule modifications include: comparing Tiers 2 and 3 and accelerating the implementation of diesel PM control for Tier 2 and 3 buses; proposing new options for pre-1994 buses, such as use of 0.1 g/bhp federally certified kits; presenting preliminary staff analysis of emissions inventory for different implementation strategies; and streamlining of the diesel and alternative-fuel paths to simplify regulatory monitoring and compliance. Additional information may be posted on the ARB public transit bus web site (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/bus/bus.html>) prior to the workshop.

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

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This public workshop is the first in a series of formal meetings conducted by ARB, and will be held in two locations, Sacramento and El Monte. This meeting will provide transit agencies, industry, and the public the opportunity to comment on the proposals. The workshop will be held at the time and locations shown below:

Date: Friday, May 3, 2002
Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM HEV test procedures
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM Transit bus fleet rule modifications
Location: Air Resources Board
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Date: Thursday, May 9, 2002
Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM HEV test procedures
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM Transit bus fleet rule modifications
Location: Air Resources Board
Annex IV Auditorium
9530 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, California 91731

If you would like to make a formal presentation during the workshop, please contact Ms. Elise Keddie, Planning and Regulatory Development Section, at (916) 323-8974, for HEV test procedures, or Mr. Juan Osborn, Retrofit Implementation Section, at (626) 575-6998, for transit bus fleet rule modifications. In the interest of time, presentations should be limited to ten minutes. These facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may call the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (916) 324-9531, or call (800) 700-8326 for TDD calls from outside the Sacramento area 14 days prior to May 3, 2002.

Sincerely,

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Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Mr. Joshua Shaw
California Transit Association
1414 K Street, Suite 320
Sacramento, California 95814