



Winston H. Hickox  
Agency Secretary

# Air Resources Board

Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.  
Chairman

9528 Telstar Avenue • P.O. Box 8001 • El Monte, California 91731 • [www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov)



Gray Davis  
Governor

November 3, 2003

Mail-Out #MSC 03-11

TO All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP REGARDING PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO  
THE FLEET RULE FOR TRANSIT AGENCIES

Background: In August 1998 the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) identified particulate matter (PM) exhaust from diesel-fueled engines as a toxic air contaminant. Following that determination, ARB developed the *Risk Reduction Plan to Reduce Particulate Matter Emissions from Diesel-Fueled Engines and Vehicles*, which was approved by the Board in September 2000. That plan identified a number of air toxic control measures to reduce public exposure to diesel PM, including the use of emission control devices or strategies on in-use engines.

In February 2000, ARB adopted the fleet rule for public transit agencies (Title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR), sections 1956.1-1956.4, as amended on October 24, 2002). This regulation is designed to achieve significant reductions in PM and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions through the implementation of a fleet rule and emission standards for new transit bus engines. This regulation also required transit agencies to meet specified criteria to demonstrate and purchase Zero-Emission Buses (ZEBs).

On May 16, 2002, the Board approved the Diesel Emission Control Strategy Verification Procedure and the Warranty and In-Use Compliance Requirements For On-Road, Off-Road, and Stationary Diesel-Fueled Vehicles And Equipment. In addition, on September 25, 2003, the Board adopted a diesel PM control measures for solid waste collection vehicles. For more information about these items, you may access ARB's website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/dieselrrp.htm>.

Workshop: These proposed regulation modifications would apply to all California transit agencies, including transit agencies that do not own any urban buses and currently are not subject to the fleet rule for transit agencies.

*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

We have previously conducted a workshop on this item on April 3, 2003; comments from that workshop have been reviewed and, in some cases, incorporated into this proposal. Additional details, including draft regulations, will be made available on the bus website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/bus/bus.htm>, within one week prior to the workshop.

The following dates and times have been scheduled to provide an overview of the revised draft regulations and receive public comments. Please note that the workshop may end earlier than scheduled if all issues have been discussed.

Date: Tuesday, December 2, 2003  
Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Location: Air Resources Board  
Auditorium, Annex 4  
9530 Telstar Avenue  
El Monte, California 91731

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2003  
Time: 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Location: Cal EPA Building  
Sierra Hearing Room  
1001 "I" Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Topics to be discussed at the workshop include the following proposals:**

### **Urban Bus Engine Standards**

- ◆ Harmonizing with United States Environmental Protection Agency 2007 heavy-duty diesel engine standards. Staff is considering changing the current 2007 urban bus standard to harmonize with the federal standard.
- ◆ Early introduction of 2007 technology. Staff is proposing allowing 2007 engine technology, which means engines meeting no higher than a 1.2 g/bhp-hr NO<sub>x</sub> emission standard, to be introduced during 2004-2006.

### **Fleet Rule for Transit Agencies**

- ◆ New sections for the fleet rule for transit agencies. The section numbers for currently number sections 1956.2 through 1956.4 will be changed to Section 2023.

- ◆ Urban bus definition. Staff is proposing to alter the definition of an urban bus by deleting the non-controlling language, which begins with "To facilitate this type of operation... "
- ◆ Non-urban bus definition. Staff is proposing to add a definition of a non-urban bus, which include medium and heavy heavy-duty diesel-fueled buses that do not otherwise meet the definition of an urban bus.
- ◆ Non-urban bus PM and NOx standards: Staff is proposing to require transit agencies to reduce PM and NOx emissions from their fleets and add reporting requirements that are synchronized with the current fleet rule for transit agencies.

### **ZEB Regulation**

The ZEB requirement includes a demonstration requirement for four diesel-path transit agencies, as well as purchase requirements that begin in 2008 for transit agencies on the diesel path and 2010 for transit agencies on the alternative-fuel path. ARB staff and the relevant transit agencies have coordinated closely on the progress of the ZEB demonstration projects. Despite the best efforts by all involved, the demonstration projects are behind schedule. In addition, the current cost of one fuel cell demonstration bus, at over \$3 million, is significantly greater than the incremental cost anticipated by the February 2000 rulemaking. Staff will initiate discussion at the workshop to establish if there is a need to revise the existing ZEB requirements.

### **Related Regulation Development**


This proposal making does not affect buses used in shuttle services provided by or for community colleges, universities, and tourism separate from public transit operations. ARB is, however, proposing a measure that would require these operators to reduce diesel PM emissions from their buses and other heavy-duty diesel vehicles. The workshop for that regulation, on-road public fleets, will be held at 10 a.m. –12 p.m. on the same dates and in the same locations as the workshop for the modification of the Fleet Rule for Transit Agencies.

Staff encourages comments regarding this proposed modification of the Fleet Rule for Transit Agencies and would appreciate receiving written comments by January 16, 2004. Timely submittal of comments allows staff time to address comments before the proposed regulation order is submitted to the Board for consideration in 2004. Please send your comments to Ms. Kathleen Mead by email at [kmead@arb.ca.gov](mailto:kmead@arb.ca.gov) or by mail, Attention: Ms. Kathleen Mead, Air Resources Board, Mobile Source Control Division, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, California 95812.

Modification of Fleet Rule for Transit Agency Workshop  
November 3, 2003  
Page 4

If you have special accommodation or language needs or have any questions or comments regarding the workshop, please contact Ms. Neidy Pinuelas, Heavy Duty Diesel In-Use Strategies Branch Secretary, at (626) 350-6454, or send an email to [npinuela@arb.ca.gov](mailto:npinuela@arb.ca.gov), as soon as possible. Teletypewriter/Telecommunications Device for the Deaf /Speech-to-Speech users may dial 7-1-1 for the California Relay Service.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Cross', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert H. Cross, Chief  
Mobile Source Control Division

Attachment