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Air Resources Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

March 15, 2005

Mailout #MSC 05-09

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP REGARDING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DIESEL PARTICULATE MATTER CONTROL MEASURE FOR ON-ROAD HEAVY-DUTY RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION VEHICLES SPECIFIC TO AGENCIES OPERATING IN THE SOUTH COAST AIR BASIN

Background: The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) adopted a control measure for diesel particulate matter (PM) emissions from on-road heavy-duty residential and commercial solid waste collection vehicles (SWCV) at a public hearing on September 25, 2003. The measure requires reduction of PM emissions from in-use vehicles through the application of best available control technology, by specified implementation dates, phased-in by engine model year groups over seven years.

On June 16, 2000, the Governing Board of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) adopted Rule 1193 - Clean On-Road Residential and Commercial Refuse Vehicles, which regulates the same fleets. Last year in April, however, the United States Supreme Court found that several SCAQMD fleet rules, including Rule 1193, were federally preempted at least in part. ARB staff is now giving consideration to four of these fleet rules in an effort to identify ways of preserving the emissions reductions that would result from their implementation. This process will require a new public record that updates relevant information on the effectiveness and costs of Rule 1193 or any similar regulation ARB may adopt to achieve similar emission reductions.

Workshop: ARB staff will hold a public workshop to discuss concepts for proposed amendments to the SWCV rule. The following date and time has been scheduled for interested parties to participate in the discussion:

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2005
Time: 9:00 a.m to 11:30 a.m.
Location: Air Resources Board
Auditorium, Annex 4
9530 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, California 91731

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

ARB will hold three similar workshops for the other South Coast fleet rules under consideration at the same location per the following schedule:

Street Sweeper Workshop

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Time: 1:30 p.m to 4:00 p.m.

School Bus Workshop

Date: Thursday, April 7, 2005

Time: 9:30 a.m to 12:00 p.m.

Transit Bus Workshop

Date: Thursday, April 7, 2005

Time: 1:30 p.m to 4:00 p.m.

Please note that you may be receiving additional notices for these other workshops. Staff is using separate mail-outs for the different workshops to ensure that stakeholders receive adequate and timely notice.

Concepts for Proposed Amendments: A number of concepts for amendments ARB could propose to preserve Rule 1193 emissions reductions are listed below:

- Adopt a rule consistent with Rule 1193
- Require purchase of best available technology, regardless of fuel type
- Require purchase of best available technology OR retrofit new diesels to achieve equivalent emissions

Preliminary thoughts on these regulatory concepts are presented in Attachment 1. Staff plans on discussing these and other ideas stakeholders may have at the workshop. Draft regulatory language may be available up to two weeks prior to the workshop at our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/scfleet/scfleet.htm>

Comments: Staff encourages comments regarding the concepts for proposed amendments to the SWCV rule and would appreciate receiving written comments by April 15, 2005. Timely submittal of comments allows staff time to address comments before the proposed regulation order is submitted to the Board for consideration later this year. Please send your comments to swcv@arb.ca.gov or by mail attention Mr. Paul Henderick, ARB, 9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4, El Monte, California 91731.

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In addition, if you would like to receive e-mail notices regarding meetings and updates related to ARB's adoption of the SCAQMD fleet rules please subscribe to ARB's list serve located at the following website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/scfleet.htm>.

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

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

Attachment