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Agency Secretary

Air Resources Board

Robert F. Sawyer, Ph.D., Chair
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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

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To: All California Public Transit Agencies

Dear Sir or Madam:

On February 24, 2005, the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) adopted a regulation to add emission reduction requirements applicable to heavy-duty transit fleet vehicles fueled by diesel and alternative-fuels. This regulation contains a number of requirements with specific compliance dates. These new requirements will affect revenue and non-revenue vehicles that are not subject to the current urban bus requirements.

The regulation requires a transit agency to submit an initial report on its transit fleet vehicles to the ARB by January 31, 2006. Forms are available at our website www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/bus/bus.htm to assist you in your first annual report. The form includes worksheets for submittal of both urban bus and transit fleet vehicle information and worksheets to calculate a fleet's nitrogen oxides (NOx) and diesel particulate matter (PM) emissions. Once finalized you can obtain a copy of the transit fleet vehicle regulations and other modifications to the Fleet Rule for Transit Agencies will be available through the California's Office of Administrative Law (OAL) website at <http://ccr.oal.ca.gov>. Until then, you can get a copy of the regulation from ARB's Rulemaking website at the following <http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/bus04/bus04.htm>. Reporting requirements are found in Title 13, California Code of Regulations, section 2023.4. A general description of those requirements are provided below.

A transit agency is required to submit the number, manufacturer, make, and model year of the engine and fuel used for each alternative and diesel fueled transit fleet vehicle it currently owns, leases, or operates as of January 1 of each year, beginning in 2006. This includes vehicles under contract to or providing service for the transit agency that may be owned by private or non-profit companies.

To establish a baseline from which to measure PM reductions, a transit agency is required to submit the number, manufacturer, make, and model year for each diesel transit fleet vehicle it owned, leased, or operated as above on January 1, 2005. The reporting form provides a worksheet for this analysis.

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

In addition, a transit agency is required to submit its fleet NOx emission average as of January 1, 2006, for alternative and diesel fueled transit fleet vehicles. If that average exceeds the 3.2 grams per brake horse-power hour (g/bhp-hr) December 31, 2007 average required in section 2023.2(a)(1), based on the engine certification standards of the transit fleet vehicle engines, the transit agency must submit a schedule of actions planned to achieve that average in the January 31, 2006 report. The report should include numbers and model years of bus purchases, retirements, retrofits and/or repowerings planned to achieve the 3.2 g/bhp-hr maximum fleet average. Again, the ARB reporting form provides a worksheet for this analysis.

I appreciate the working relationship we have developed with various transit agencies, Cal/ACT and the California Transit Association during the regulatory development process. ARB staff is committed to assist your agency in your efforts to comply with all requirements of this rule. We encourage an open process where issues related to compliance can be discussed to ensure that they are addressed in a timely manner.

If you have any questions regarding transit fleet vehicle regulations, please contact Ms. Kathleen Mead, Manager, at (916) 324-9550 or Mr. Douglas Grandt, Air Resources Engineer, at (916) 327-2938. Questions regarding urban bus regulations should be addressed to Ms. Mead or Ms. Thelma Yoosephiance, Air Resources Engineer, at (626) 350-6407.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mr. Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Ms. Kathleen Mead, Manager
Retrofit Implementation Section

Mr. Douglas Grandt
Air Resources Engineer
Retrofit Implementation Section

Ms. Thelma Yoosephiance
Air Resources Engineer
Retrofit Implementation Section