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Air Resources Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
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February 27, 2006

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TO: ALL CALIFORNIA WASTEHAULER FLEETS
CALIFORNIA REFUSE REMOVAL COUNCIL
OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

SUBJECT: ADVISORY ON 2006 COMPLIANCE EXTENSION
FOR GROUP 2a WASTE COLLECTION ENGINES

The purpose of this Advisory is to notify owners and operators of solid waste collection vehicle (SWCV or waste collection) fleets that the Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) has determined that only one device to reduce diesel particulate matter (PM) in Group 2a (1960-1987 model year (MY) engines) was verified by the March 1, 2006 deadline. Verification was extended on July 1, 2005 to a Level 1 Lubrizol device which will work for some on-road Detroit Diesel engines in MYs 1973 through 1989. This device was verified after the 2005 verification deadline, and is now available for meeting Group 2a compliance for these 1973-1989 Detroit Diesel engines. Owners of SWCVs powered by these Detroit Diesel engines are required to review this Level 1 device to see if it will work for their engines. However, no other devices or strategies have been verified for use in Group 2a SWCVs.

Therefore, except for Group 2a SWCVs with 1973 through 1989 Detroit Diesel engines, ARB is issuing a compliance extension for Group 2a SWCVs through December 31, 2006.

Looking ahead to 2007, municipalities operating SWCVs and fleet owners are required to implement 60 percent of their Group 2a fleets, 25 percent of their Group 2b fleets, and 100 percent of their Group 1 fleets by the December 31, 2007 compliance deadline. Fleet owners and operators should frequently check the list of ARB verified devices at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/verdev.htm>. This list is updated regularly as new devices or compliance strategies are verified.

BACKGROUND

The SWCV Regulation requires owners and operators to reduce PM emissions from their diesel-fueled waste collection vehicles. The PM reductions are to be phased in from 2004 through 2010. Different phase-in schedules are provided for vehicles in Group 1 (engine MY 1988-2002), Group 2 (engine MY 1960-1987) and Group 3 (engine MY 2003-2006.)

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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The Regulation [Section 2021.2(d)(2)(A)] states that ARB's Executive Officer shall grant a blanket one-year compliance extension if a diesel emission control strategy is not verified for an engine ten months prior to each compliance deadline. The 2006 compliance deadline for 40 percent of Group 2a engines is December 31, 2006. Only one compliance strategy for these Group 2a engines, applicable to a small group of Detroit Diesel engines, had been verified 10 months prior to the compliance deadline. Therefore, except for the applicable Detroit Diesel engines, the Executive Officer is issuing a blanket compliance extension in 2006 for Group 2a engines.

The Board encourages SWCV fleet owners to continue retrofitting their vehicles for which verified devices are available. Reducing PM emissions is important to the health of our citizens so making every effort to retrofit all applicable engines is necessary.

Should you have any questions regarding this advisory, please contact Mr. Richard Varenchik, Staff Air Pollution Specialist, at (626) 575-6730 or email at rvarench@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Mr. Richard Varenchik
Staff Air Pollution Specialist
Retrofit Implementation Section

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