



Air Resources Board



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Arnold Schwarzenegger
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December 23, 2009

Mail-Out #MSC 09-46

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: LOWER-EMISSION SCHOOL BUS PROGRAM MAIL-OUT --
EXTENSION OF CONTRACT EXECUTION DATES FOR
REPLACEMENT SCHOOL BUSES WITH MODEL YEAR 2009 ENGINES

This mail-out provides Air Resources Board (ARB) guidance to air districts and public school districts participating in the Lower-Emission School Bus Program (LESBP) regarding contract execution dates for replacement projects with 2009 model year (MY) engines. Under this mail-out the deadline for executing contracts for these projects has been extended from December 31, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

Extension of Contract Execution Dates:

Implementation of the LESBP has been delayed by the slow release of bond funds in 2009. ARB is extending the contract execution deadline for school buses replaced with buses that have 2009 MY engines to June 30, 2010. This will allow air districts to help school districts get children into safer, less polluting transportation quickly and without further delay.

2010 Model Year Engine Emissions Standards

In addition, ARB staff is aware that school bus engines meeting the 2010 model year emission criteria of 0.2 grams per brake horsepower-hour oxides of nitrogen (NOx), as required in the 2008 LESBP guidelines, are not currently available. Staff is working on proposed changes to the guidelines to ensure continued availability of funds for replacements and will be taking our recommendations to the Board for consideration in March 2010.

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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If you have questions regarding this mail-out, please contact Ms. Janet Page, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 324-1988 or via email at jpage@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

James N. Goldstene
Executive Officer

cc: Janet Page
Air Pollution Specialist
Planning & Regulatory Development Section