



Air Resources Board



Linda S. Adams
*Acting Secretary for
Environmental Protection*

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
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Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

May 4, 2011

Mail-Out #MSC 11-15

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS CERTIFICATION FOR SPECIALLY
CONSTRUCTED VEHICLES (KIT CARS, ETC.)

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) is currently considering a concept for certifying new engines intended for use in specially constructed vehicles (i.e., kit cars). A workshop to discuss ARB staff's preliminary thoughts and proposed certification process is scheduled for May 31, 2011, in Sacramento, California.

Details of the meeting are as follows:

DATE: Tuesday, May 31, 2011
TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: California Environmental Protection Agency
Byron Sher Auditorium
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95817

The workshop will be webcast. Interested parties may access the webcast on the morning of the workshop at: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/?BDO=1>.

Staff believes that creating a certification path for such engine packages could result in emission benefits compared to existing specially constructed vehicle practices and would like to solicit input from car enthusiast, suppliers, manufacturers and other interested parties on the feasibility and desire to install such emission controlled engine packages into specially constructed vehicles.

California Vehicle Code section 580 defines a specially constructed vehicle as a vehicle built for private use, and not for resale, built from a kit, new or used parts, or a reassembling of parts from a vehicle reported for dismantling, and does not resemble the original vehicle. Existing law requires specially constructed vehicles to be subject to emission requirements prior to being registered for use in California, which generally requires the vehicle engines to be equipped with the emission controls associated with the model year and configuration of the engine. However, up to 500 specially

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constructed vehicles per year are eligible to be registered pursuant to procedures of Health and Safety Code section 44017.4, which allows the vehicle owner the option to choose whether the vehicle is subject to requirements based on either engine model year or vehicle model year.

Engine manufacturers have approached ARB staff with a proposal to develop regulations to allow the certification and usage of new engines in specially constructed vehicles that are capable of meeting most Low Emission Vehicle II emission standards but that do not incorporate all emission control systems that exist on production new motor vehicles. Staff believes that creating a certification path for such engine packages could result in emission benefits compared to existing specially constructed vehicle practices and would like to solicit input from car enthusiasts, suppliers, manufacturers and other interested parties on the feasibility and desire to install such emission controlled engine packages into specially constructed vehicles. Specifically, staff is looking for input on the following:

- how to ensure proper installation of such engines,
- how to ensure the proper operation and durability of emission controls associated with such engines,
- how to handle emission control warranty issues,
- how to understand the complexity and need for on-board diagnostic systems function and repair, including fuel storage vapor recovery and system integrity,
- how to avoid creating inadvertent loopholes in the existing vehicle certification process, and
- if and how the new certification path should apply to kit cars built by one person for another (for example, turnkey kit cars).

If you require special accommodations or language needs, please contact David Leuterio at (916) 322-6971 or dleuteri@arb.ca.gov, as soon as possible but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

ARB will use the Specially Constructed Vehicle website to update stakeholders of upcoming events. Also, join the list serve for Specially Constructed Vehicles, which can be accessed through the website. Please visit:
http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onroad/special_construct_veh.htm

Interested members of the public may present comments orally or in writing at the workshop. Comments may also be submitted by postal mail before the workshop or by electronic submittal before and during the workshop.

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Postal mail: Ms. Anna Wong
Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

Electronic submittal: awong@arb.ca.gov

We welcome and encourage your participation. If you have any questions regarding the workshop, please contact Ms. Anna Wong, Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 323-2410, or by email at awong@arb.ca.gov, or Ms. Kim Heroy-Rogalski, Manager, at (916) 327-2200, or by email at kheroyro@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: Ms. Analisa Bevan, Chief
Sustainable Transportation Technology Branch

Ms. Annette Hebert, Chief
Mobile Source Operation Division

Ms. Jackie Lourenco, Chief
New Vehicle/Engine Programs Branch

Ms. Rose Castro, Manager
Aftermarket Parts Section

Mr. Michael McCarthy, Manager
Advanced Engineering Section

Ms. Kim Heroy-Rogalski, Manager
Off-Road Implementation Section

Ms. Anna Wong, Air Pollution Specialist
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