



Air Resources Board



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November 19, 2013

Mail-Out #MSO 2013-05

TO: Zero Emission Bus and Transit Fleet Stakeholders

SUBJECT: ZERO EMISSION BUS WORKSHOP NOTICE

The Air Resources Board (ARB or Board) invites you to participate in a public workshop on December 3, 2013, in Oakland, California, to discuss amendments to the Zero Emission Bus (ZBus) regulation and to explore the status of, and future developments to, ZBus technology and related systems.

ARB held an initial workshop on September 17, 2013, in Diamond Bar, California. At this first workshop, ARB discussed the continued need for ZBus technology development. ZBus manufacturers and technology providers presented the current state of ZBus technology and where they anticipated this technology will be in the near and medium term future. In addition, transit agencies shared their experiences with procuring ZBuses, operating them within urban fleets, and maintenance challenges and opportunities. Since that workshop staff have engaged in one-on-one meetings with transit operators, technology providers and bus manufacturers to hear their individual perspectives on ZBus deployment.

At this workshop, staff will summarize the panels from the first workshop and will summarize the common themes expressed during the individual stakeholder meetings. This workshop will focus on regulatory concepts and options under consideration for ZBus deployment and may include a broader look at the transit fleet rule. An additional workshop may follow this workshop to discuss specific regulatory language and to take comments on draft amendments prior to taking the regulatory package to the Board.

Details of the workshop are as follows:

Date: December 3, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Metropolitan Transportation Commission
101 Eighth Street, Auditorium
Oakland, California 94607

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

Participants are encouraged to attend in person. However, a conference call or a “GoTo Meeting” will be set up to accommodate those who are unable to attend in person. The sign up information along with a final agenda will be posted seven days before the meeting on the ZBus website, <http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/bus/zbus/zbus.htm>.

BACKGROUND:

The ZBus regulation, first adopted in 2000, applies to transit agencies with 200 or more urban buses. The regulation required a demonstration for diesel path transit agencies and 15 percent of new buses purchased to be zero emission beginning in 2008 for diesel path transit agencies, and 2010 for alternative path transit agencies. The ZBus regulation was amended in 2006, to include an advanced demonstration from the diesel path transit agencies. The Board postponed the purchase requirement to 2011 for diesel path transit agencies, and 2012 for alternative path transit agencies. The Board directed the Executive Officer to suspend the ZBus purchase requirement through Resolution 09-49 at the July 2009 Board Meeting. In January 2010 “Mail-Out #MSC 10-04” notified all affected transit agencies of the ZBus purchase requirement suspension. The Board will be considering changes or amendments to the ZBus regulation which may affect the purchase requirement in May 2014.

For more information on this workshop please contact Mr. Gerhard Achtelik, Manager, of the Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Section at (916) 323-8973 or via email at gachteli@arb.ca.gov, or Ms. Lesley Stern, Air Resources Engineer, at (916) 323-2913 or via email at lstern@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Annette Hebert, Chief
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cc: Gerhard Achtelik, Manager
Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Section
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Lesley Stern
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