

**State of California
AIR RESOURCES BOARD**

**NOTICE OF CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER APPROVAL
OF A REVISION TO THE OZONE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA**

The California Air Resources Board (Board or ARB) will conduct a public hearing to consider a revision to the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for ozone for the San Francisco Bay Area. This matter was originally heard by the Board at a public hearing in San Francisco held on July 26, 2001. This hearing was continued by the Board, and has been scheduled for the time and place noted below.

DATE: November 1, 2001

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Elihu Harris Building
Auditorium
1515 Clay Street
Oakland, California

This facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. If accommodation is needed, please contact ARB's Clerk of the Board by October 18, 2001, at (916) 322-5594, or TDD (916) 324-9531, or (800) 700-8326 for TDD calls outside the Sacramento area.

On July 18, 2001, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (District) and its co-lead agencies, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) adopted the 2001 *San Francisco Bay Area Ozone Attainment Plan for the 1-Hour National Ozone Standard* (Plan). However, the boards also directed their staffs to hold six community meetings to solicit additional input on the Plan.

ARB staff recommended approval of the Plan in its Staff Report released June 26, 2001 and posted on the ARB website at www.arb.ca.gov/sip/basip01.htm. At the July 26, 2001 hearing, commenters raised concerns about the lack of an Enhanced Smog Check program in the Plan and the adequacy of the process for public input. The Board continued the hearing to allow time for the six community meetings.

The Bay Area agencies published a Revised Plan on September 17, 2001 after the completion of the six community meetings. The governing boards of the Bay Area District, MTC and ABAG are scheduled to hear the Revised Plan on October 24, 2001. Contingent on local adoption, the ARB will consider the Revised Plan, including any changes made to the proposal by the local agencies in response to public comments.

The Revised Plan proposes a joint commitment by the Bay Area agencies, ARB, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to adopt additional measures to achieve further reductions of 26 tons per day of volatile organic compounds (beyond the benefits of adopted regulations and specific rules committed for adoption in the Revised Plan), subject to reassessment in 2003. ARB staff proposes that the Board approve this commitment; the complete text excerpted from the Revised Plan is shown below.

“...the co-lead agencies and ARB commit to adopt measures necessary to achieve 148 tons/day VOC reductions, unless modified by the mid-course review, by the attainment deadline. The co-lead agencies and ARB also commit to conduct a mid-course review by December 15, 2003 that will include an evaluation of the modeling from the Central California Ozone Study and the latest technical information (inventory data, monitoring, etc.) to determine the level of emission reductions needed to attain the one-hour ozone standard. The co-lead agencies and ARB further commit to continue working with U.S. EPA and Bay Area stakeholders in an open, public consultative process to ensure the mid-course review is a comprehensive and thorough evaluation and to assess possible new control measures. Should the mid-course review show that more, equal, or fewer reductions are necessary, the co-lead agencies and ARB commit to submit to U.S. EPA by April 15, 2004 a SIP revision that includes a revised reduction calculation and any additional control measures needed for attainment.

The co-lead agencies and ARB make these commitments with the understanding that U.S. EPA will discharge its responsibilities under the Clean Air Act by undertaking rulemaking to promulgate any VOC measures that are determined to be appropriate for U.S. EPA and needed for ozone attainment in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The co-lead agencies and ARB believe, based on the best technical information available, that identifying new measures that will achieve attainment is particularly challenging for the Bay Area given the level of control already in place. The co-lead agencies and ARB will continue to assess, on an on-going basis, emerging technologies, opportunities for pollution prevention and the reasonable availability of other measures. Through this process, the co-lead agencies and ARB are committed to identify by the mid-course review, specific measures needed for attainment. The record supports the conclusion that the motor vehicle budget in this plan and conformity determinations made under it will be consistent with attainment in the Bay Area. If the specific measures affect the on-road motor vehicle emissions budget, the co-lead agencies and ARB commit to submit the revised budget to U.S. EPA.”

The Revised Plan also includes a higher emission estimate for refinery flares and five new further study measures (four for refineries and a parking cash out pilot program). To reflect the change in flare emissions, the projected inventories and attainment assessment have also been updated. The Bay Area agencies' proposal to implement selected improvements to the Smog Check program remains unchanged.

ARB staff will not modify its existing staff report on the Plan. We will make an oral presentation on the changes in the Revised Plan and recommend Board approval at the hearing. Interested members of the public may also present comments on the Revised Plan orally or in writing at the hearing, and in writing or by e-mail before the hearing. To be considered by the Board, written comments not physically submitted at the hearing must be received **no later than 12:00 noon, October 31, 2001**, and addressed to the following:

Postal mail is to be sent to:

Clerk of the Board
Air Resources Board
1001 "I" Street, 23rd Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Electronic mail is to be sent to baysip@listserv.arb.ca.gov and received at ARB **no later than 12:00 noon, October 31, 2001**.

Facsimile submissions are to be transmitted to the Clerk of the Board at (916) 322-3928 and received at the ARB **no later than 12:00 noon October 31, 2001**.

The Board requests, but does not require, 30 copies of any written submission. Also, ARB requests that written and e-mail statements be filed at least 10 days prior to the hearing so that ARB staff and Board members have time to fully consider each comment. Further inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Mr. Bruce Tuter at (916) 322-2832.

CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

/s/

Michael P. Kenny
Executive Officer

Date: October 1, 2001