May 26, 2015

Dear Madam or Sir:

The California Air Resources Board (ARB/Board) and the California Air Pollution Control Officer’s Association (CAPCOA) invite you to participate in two public workshops to discuss the draft document “Risk Management Guidance for Stationary Sources of Air Toxics.” This document is a discussion draft of guidance that California’s 35 local Air Pollution Control Districts and Air Quality Management Districts (Districts) may elect to use for incorporating the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment’s (OEHHA) new health risk assessment methodology into their stationary source permitting and Assembly Bill (AB) 2588 (Stats. 1987) Air Toxics Hot Spots programs. This document will be available for public comment on May 27, 2015. Following the workshops, we will release a revised draft for consideration by the ARB at a public hearing on July 23, 2015.

The workshops will be held at the following times and locations:

Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 (webcast)
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (PST)
Location: South Coast Air Quality Management District Auditorium
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, California 91765-4182

Date: Thursday, June 18, 2015 (webcast)
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (PST)
Location: CalEPA Headquarters Building
Byron Sher Auditorium
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Directions to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) offices can be found at: http://www.aqmd.gov/contact. Directions to the California Environmental Protection Agency offices can be found at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/contact.

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.
Protection Agency’s (CalEPA) headquarters and public transit can be found at the CalEPA website at: http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPABldg/.

Background

On March 6, 2015, OEHHA released the Air Toxics Hot Spots Program Risk Assessment Guidelines: Guidance Manual for the Preparation of Health Risk Assessments. This document contains the new risk assessment methodology that addresses the latest scientific information on childhood sensitivities and the most recent data on childhood and adult exposure to air toxics. It represents an accumulation of data since the passage of the Children's Health Protection Act of 1999 (SB 25, Stats. 1999) which required OEHHA to ensure infants and children are explicitly addressed in assessing risk. The use of the new risk assessment methodology may result in higher estimated cancer risk than what would have been calculated using the previous 2003 OEHHA risk assessment methodology for the same level of emissions and conditions. More information on the new OEHHA methodology can be found at: http://oehha.ca.gov/air/hot_spots/hotspots2015.html.

In general, the higher estimated risks mean that new or modified sources of toxics may need additional emissions control. For existing sources, even though they meet existing rules and regulations, additional emissions control may be needed since the higher estimated risk might now exceed the District’s risk reduction levels for Hot Spots requirements. ARB and Districts are reevaluating their programs to determine if adjustments need to be made to permitting, source specific regulations, or Hot Spot programs. The risk management guidance document is intended to help Districts with their reevaluation process and to communicate ARB and Districts' plans, priorities, and policies regarding implementation of the new OEHHA risk assessment methodology. When approved, this document will supersede ARB’s Risk Management Guidelines for New and Modified Sources of Toxic Air Pollutants (1993). In addition, this document conveys ARB’s work plan for evaluating the Board’s Air Toxics Program and provides the updated Risk Management Policy for Inhalation Risk Assessments which replaces the ARB’s Interim Risk Management Policy for Inhalation-based Residential Cancer Risk (2003).

Webcast and Handout Information

For those unable to attend in person, these workshops will be webcast. Webcast links are posted at: http://www.aqmd.gov/home/library/webcasts for the Diamond Bar workshop and at: http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast for the Sacramento workshop. We recommend that you do not run other programs while viewing the webcast, as it may interrupt or lower the quality of the signal.
To obtain posted materials, or to join our list serve to receive an email notification for future materials associated with risk management actions, please visit our website at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/rma/rma.htm.

Special Accommodations and Language Assistance

If you require special accommodations or need this document in an alternative format (i.e., Braille, large print) or another language, please contact Ms. Linda Keifer at (916) 327-1011, or linda.keifer@arb.ca.gov as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled event/meeting. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

We welcome and encourage your participation at these workshops. If you have questions regarding the upcoming workshops, please contact Mr. Gregory Harris, Staff Air Pollution Specialist, at (916) 327-5980 or via email at gregory.harris@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert Krieger, Manager
Emissions Evaluation Section
Transportation and Toxics Division

cc: Mr. Gregory Harris
Staff Air Pollution Specialist
Emissions Evaluation Section