AGENDA ITEM 

05-3-1: HEALTH UPDATE (Ozone Exposure and Short-Term Mortality)

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

Staff discussed studies conducted in the U.S. and Europe that found an association between ozone exposure and premature death. The U.S. study examined 95 large cities and found that a one hour 10-part per billion (ppb) increase in ozone was associated with a 0.1% increase in non-injury related deaths. The European study looked at 23 cities and found a 0.66% increase in daily deaths per 10-ppb increase in hourly ozone levels. In both studies, adjustments were made for the confounding effects of other pollutants and weather. Both studies also noted that the ozone effects were independent of particulate matter exposures. Questions remain about the effect of weather, other pollutants, and the underlying biological mechanisms. Three additional studies on ozone-related premature deaths will be published in July 2005 that may provide more information.

ORAL TESTIMONY: None

FORMAL BOARD ACTION: None (Informational Item)
05-3-2: Public Meeting to Consider Research Proposals

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

Staff presented five research proposals entitled:

- “Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality in New Homes.”
- “Hourly In-Situ Quantification of Organic Aerosol Marker Compounds.”
- “Development and Demonstration of an Aerosol Tracer Technique Based on Neutron Activation Analysis for Studying Cyclical Deposition and Resuspension of Aerosol-Associated Toxic Contaminants.”

ORAL TESTIMONY: None

FORMAL BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously approved Resolutions 05-21 through 05-25.

05-3-3: Report to the Legislature on Indoor Air Pollution in California

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

Staff presented key conclusions of its report to the Legislature on Indoor Air Pollution in California, as required by Assembly Bill 1173 (St. 2002, Ch. 987; H&SC 39930). The sources of indoor pollutants include air cleaners that purposely generate ozone, biological contaminants, building materials, combustion appliances, environmental tobacco smoke, architectural coatings, consumer products, household and office equipment, and pesticide products, as well as soil and water in some locales. Exposure to indoor pollutants can lead to asthma, allergies, cancer, premature death, increased respiratory and heart disease, and irritant effects. The estimated costs of these health effects are $45 billion per year in California.
Staff discussed options for improving indoor air quality including emission controls, ventilation, proper maintenance and public education. High priority categories for mitigation include ozone-generating indoor air cleaning devices, biological contaminants, building materials and furnishings, combustion appliances, environmental tobacco smoke and radon. Other sources of concern but lower priority include architectural coatings, consumer products, household and office equipment and pesticides. Staff recommended that special priority be given to reducing children’s exposures.

Several teachers and representatives of the Center for School Mold Help commented on personal health problems caused by unmitigated mold in classrooms. They emphasized the need for state regulations requiring prevention and proper remediation of moisture problems. In their view, ventilation and use of disinfectants after a problem develops are inadequate solutions.

Maytag and the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers objected to identifying combustion appliances as a high priority category and proposed that vacuum cleaners be removed from the medium priority group. Another speaker noted that one of the recommendations of the report appeared to suggest a ban on gas stoves. Staff clarified that no such ban was intended or stated in the Report. These industries also objected to any mandatory emission limits and encouraged ARB to work with existing organizations instead.

The Consumer Specialty Products Association commented that the report presents only a cursory review of biological contaminants (mold), does not acknowledge the benefits of consumer products in maintaining a healthful indoor environment, and fails to reflect rigorous federal safety regulations that govern consumer products.

The American Lung Association of California stressed that indoor air pollution should receive more attention than it currently does, and that action steps should be implemented, especially in schools.

Board members complimented the staff for the extensive and thorough report. Board member Kennard noted that funds are lacking to address these problems in schools, as well as in public housing, which also is likely to have serious indoor air pollution. Board member Loveridge suggested creating a checklist to use in the home or office to identify possible indoor air quality problems.

ORAL TESTIMONY:

Chris Felicijan, Center for School Mold Help
Susan Brinchman, Center for School Mold Help
TERESA WESTMORELAND, CENTER FOR SCHOOL MOLD HELP
DENISE BYRD, CENTER FOR SCHOOL MOLD HELP
LUKE HARMS, MAYTAG AND ASSOCIATION OF HOME APPLIANCE MFRS.
LAURIE NELSON, CONSUMER SPECIALTY PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION
BONNIE HOLMES-GEN, AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
LEE HUDSON, GASP, CCAP, AND SELF
A. L. WILSON, WILSON ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION

FORMAL BOARD ACTION: The Board approved Resolution No. 05-28 by a unanimous vote.

RESPONSIBLE DIVISION: Research Division

STAFF REPORT: Yes

05-3-4: Public Meeting to Consider Emergency Regulatory Changes to the Stationary Engine ATCM Particulate Matter Emissions Standard

SUMMARY OF AGENDA ITEM:

The Board adopted an emergency change to the stationary diesel airborne toxic control measure (ATCM) for agricultural pump engines greater than 50 horsepower (hp) and less than 175 hp. These changes allow the use of any certified off-road agricultural pump engine in the above engine size ranges. Specifically, the Board changed the particulate matter (PM) standard for agricultural engines from 0.15 grams per brake horsepower-hour (g/bhp-hr) to 0.30 g/bhp-hr for 50-99 hp engines and to 0.22 g/bhp-hr for 100-174 hp engines. The emergency regulation is effective for a period of 120 days.

To make the emergency regulation permanent, staff will conduct a normal rulemaking for amending the stationary engine ATCM. As part of that process, staff will hold a public workshop with all of the affected stakeholders, issue a new staff report and provide a 45-day comment period. As appropriate, staff may propose some adjustments to the emergency changes adopted by the Board and, if so, will present its rationale for suggesting those changes. The follow-up rulemaking is scheduled for consideration at the Board's May 2005 meeting.

Public testimony was in favor of allowing the Tier 2 off-road standards for agricultural pump diesel engines greater than 50 hp and less than 175 hp instead of the 0.15 g/bhp-hr PM standard in the current stationary ATCM.
ORAL/WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

Manuel Cunha, NISEI Farmers League
Bob Morrelli, Western Power Product Co.
Charlie Simpson, Quinn Power Systems
Joe Unseth, Deutz
Karl Lany, SCEC Air Quality Specialists
Sam Pallesi, Fresno Equipment Company
Joe Suchecki, Engine Manufacturers Association
Cynthia Cory, California Farm Bureau Fed.
Carl Voss, Grimmway Farms

FORMAL BOARD ACTION: The Board voted unanimously to adopt resolution 05-29 to take action on this emergency measure.

RESPONSIBLE DIVISION: Stationary Source Division

STAFF REPORT: No