June 28, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Air Resources Board (ARB) invites you to participate in a public workshop to discuss the Supplement to the AB 32 Scoping Plan Functional Equivalent Document (Supplement), which was prepared for the AB 32 Scoping Plan in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Air Resources Board’s (ARB or Board) certified regulatory program (title 17, California Code of Regulations, sections 60006-60008). The supplement was publically released on June 13, 2011, and the public comment period will end on July 28, 2011.

The public workshop will be held at the following time and location:

DATE: Friday, July 8, 2011
TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
PLACE: California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board
Byron Sher Auditorium
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Directions to Cal/EPA headquarters and public transit can be found at the California Environmental Protection Agency’s website at: http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm.

Background

In 2008, ARB, acting as the lead agency, prepared a Functional Equivalent Document (2008 FED) for the AB 32 Scoping Plan (Scoping Plan). The Scoping Plan outlines the State’s strategy to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, as required by the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32; Stats. 2006, Chapter 48). The Scoping Plan includes a range of GHG emission reduction measures, including direct regulations, alternative compliance mechanisms, monetary and non-monetary incentives, voluntary actions, a market-based cap-and-trade system, and a fee regulation to fund the program. The 2008 FED included an analysis of a range of

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.
five alternatives to the Scoping Plan, including a “no project” alternative, a plan relying on a cap-and-trade program for the sectors included in a cap, a plan relying on source-specific regulatory requirements with no cap-and-trade component, a plan relying on a carbon fee or tax, and a plan relying on a variation of proposed strategies and measures.

The Supplement provides an expanded and revised analysis of the five alternatives discussed in the 2008 FED that, if approved, will supersede and replace the project alternatives section of the 2008 FED found at pages J-74 to J-90. After the close of the 45 day comment period on July 28, 2011, ARB staff will prepare written responses to comments received during the 45 day comment period that raise significant environmental issues, based on the analysis contained in the Supplement. The written responses to comments will be posted on ARB’s website prior to the Board hearing scheduled for August 24, 2011. At the hearing, the Board will reconsider its prior decision on the Scoping Plan based on the expanded environmental analysis provided in the Supplement, along with the 2008 FED, the written response to public comments (both those prepared in response to comments on the Supplement and those prepared in response to comments received in 2008 on the 2008 FED), and the proposed Scoping Plan.

Staff’s presentation will be posted in advance of the workshop on ARB’s website at: http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/scopingplan/scopingplan.htm. Hardcopy materials will also be available on the day of the workshop.

If you require a special accommodation or need this document in an alternate format (i.e. Braille, large print) or another language, please contact Ms. Jeannie Blakeslee at (916) 445-8286 as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days before the scheduled workshop. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

We welcome and encourage your participation at this workshop. If you have general questions regarding the workshop or the Supplement to the AB 32 Scoping Plan FED, please contact Ms. Jeannie Blakeslee at (916) 445-8286, or jblakesl@arb.ca.gov; or Staff Counsel Christina Morkner Brown at (916) 324-0668, or cmorkner@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert Jenne
Assistant Chief Counsel

c: See next page.
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cc: Christina Morkner Brown
    Staff Counsel
    Office of Legal Affairs

            Jeannie Blakeslee
            Air Pollution Specialist
            Office of Legal Affairs